



Remembering the dream

Elected officials and local clergy came together with about 350 residents to celebrate the message of the late civil rights pioneer Martin Luther King Monday. The day started with the annual "Walk for Warmth," after which a pancake breakfast at Romulus High School was served. A memorial called "Past History, Present Reality" that featured speeches about Dr. King's achievements and how they relate to unity, empowerment and tolerance followed the breakfast. Here (first row), the Rev. Rita Talley, Cheryl Buckley, Mayor Alan Lambert, the Rev. Arthur Willis and Betty Lemossi join (second row) councilmen William Wadsworth, Randy Gear, Joel R. Carr, Ken Berlimm and Leroy Bancroft after the walk.

New recreation center acquired for \$1.9 million

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Romulus residents who leave the city boundaries for parks and recreation activities may have a new facility in which to enjoy municipal parks programs.

Mayor Alan Lambert said the city has acquired the former Overhead Crane Co. facility at Wayne and Northline roads for \$1.9 million. The city is in negotiations with Steve Yokum, the owner of the building, for an additional 5 acres surrounding the building, Lambert said.

"A recreation center is something we've had to live without for some time, and we've been looking at this facility for about two months," Lambert said. "Most cities have their own recreation facilities, and we want to offer people in Romulus the same opportunities people in other communities have."

The facility is about 40,000 square feet as it is now, said Tim Keyes, the economic development director for the city. "We will expand on that - it will be about 70,000 square feet when it's

finished."

The cost of the building, renovations and some infrastructure work will be paid for using Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA) funds, which means taxpayers will not have to pay additional monies for the new center. The city TIFA board approved the purchase of the facility recently.

"One of the obstacles we've always had is that bond issues would fail because voters could not afford the new taxes," Lambert said. "It's been that way for a long time."

The use of TIFA dollars is contingent on acquiring the surrounding land, which is located west of the Detroit Metropolitan Airport. Lambert said he is confident the sale of the land will be finalized.

The new center will offer the full array of programs currently offered at school facilities and other recreation centers outside the city. A pool, exercise rooms, multi-purpose rooms for meetings and parties, basketball

See **Center**, page 3

Party store robber nabbed by police

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Police have apprehended a Detroit man they believe got away with more than \$20,000 in cash after he robbed the owner of a Romulus party store.

Antonio Coleman, 37, was formally charged with armed robbery, felony firearms and felon-in-possession of a firearm at the 34th District Court in Romulus Saturday. An armed robbery conviction carries a sentence of anywhere from 15 years to life in prison. The felony firearms and possession charges add two-years and five-years to any sentence imposed, respectively. Coleman was also charged as a fourth-time habitual offender, which makes

him eligible for life imprisonment. Visiting Judge Vesta Svenson ordered Coleman held at the Wayne County Jail on \$50,000 bond.

The charges against Coleman stem from a robbery at the Super Y party store at Ecorse and Van Born Roads on Jan. 6, said Romulus Police Det. Sgt. Jeffrey Lazarski.

"It was pay day at some of the local businesses, and (Coleman) thought it would be a big day at the party store," he said. "He simply walked up the owner, pointed a gun at him, and demanded the money bag. The owner complied."

But what Coleman didn't know is that patrons and employees in the store had watched Coleman's tan Toyota Highlander in the

parking lot for more than two hours before the robbery, and had written down the license plate number.

"Three people noticed the vehicle was there," Lazarski said.

That plate number led the Romulus police to Farmington Hills, where the South Oakland Narcotics Intelligence Consortium (SONIC), an undercover narcotics unit in Oakland County, was building a case against Coleman. Officers from that unit arrested Coleman for the robbery on Jan. 7.

"Once we did a teletype to other agencies, Farmington Hills called us and agreed to pick him up," Lazarski said.

See **Robber**, page 3

Man charged with accosting 13-year-old

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

A Romulus man who expected to meet a 13-year-old girl for sex was surprised last week to find four undercover officers waiting for him.

Robert Todd Johnson, 37, was arrested Jan. 3 in the parking lot of a restaurant near his Romulus home and taken into custody after police set up a sting operation, said Romulus Police Det. Sgt. Jeffrey Lazarski.

"He had been calling her, asking her for sexual favors for months, and when her mother finally found out, she called us,"

he said. "The last time they spoke, she told him she was at home when she was really at the (Romulus Police) station. He offered sex for money, and she agreed to meet him. Only instead of meeting a cute 13-year-old girl, he met some ugly undercover officers who removed him from his car and took him into custody."

Johnson was charged at the 34th District Court with Criminal Sexual Conduct in the fourth degree and accosting a minor. He faces 10 years in prison if convicted. He is being held at the Wayne County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond.

The family of the girl became acquainted with Johnson after he babysat at their home last year, Lazarski said. Shortly thereafter, he allegedly obtained her cell phone number and left several lewd messages. He only touched the victim once, police said.

The girl tried not to take the calls, but some inevitably filtered through, Lazarski said.

"She thought this was something she could deal with on her own," she said.

Police said Johnson was apprehended with a small

See **Teen**, page 3

Romulus receives grant for sewer improvements

Scott Spielman
Editor

The City of Romulus will get some help in cleaning up the Rouge River Watershed.

The city received a Rouge VI-Grant through the Wayne County Rouge Program office to minimize the clear water flow into the

sanitary system with in the Rouge River Watershed, according to Derrick Schueller, a consultant with Orchard Hiltz & McCliment, Inc.

"It's a grant to reduce the flow of water into the sanitary sewer system, whether it's from a leaky manhole, or whatever," Schueller told members of the Romulus City Council last week.

The goal of the project is to find and remove sources of inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer system and stop

it, which could help reduce potential sewer overflows and basement flooding in the watershed, he added. The Rouge River Watershed enters the community in the northwest corner of the city.

The work is consistent with the requirements of the Administrative Consent Order (ACO), which is currently under the purview of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

Major portions of the project include: the

quantification of flows, documentation of existing system conditions and rehabilitation recommendations, sample corrections and a measurement of how effective the corrective actions are, according to Schueller.

"We're going to analyze

See **Sewers**, page 3

We're going to analyze where the water is coming in and figure out how to stop it.

Students plan spaghetti dinner to help fund programs

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Students of the Belleville High School division of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) are starting another chapter in an effort to promote literacy in the community.

This year, students hope to make it to the State Leadership Conference at the Grand Traverse Resort in Michigan, but in order to do that, they need some help.

That's why they will host a spaghetti dinner benefit from 2-7 p.m. on Saturday at the Belleville Moose Lodge. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 10 years old and younger. Students will read to young children throughout the event.

According to Donna Wertz, FCCLA advisor and head of the family and career sciences at the high school, about 20 students and faculty members will go to the competition on April 13-15 with hopes of bringing back more awards.

"This competition is what life is all about," she said.

"It gives the kids the chance to apply what they have learned in the classroom to real life, as well as show others what they have learned."

The FCCLA, formerly known as the Future Homemakers of America and Home Economics Related Occupations, is a nonprofit national vocational student organization for young men and women in

family and consumer sciences education in public and private schools. It is for students through grade 12.

In the past, the Belleville FCCLA has won numerous awards for their submitted scrapbook and the most courteous school group which gave them the title: Youth at their Best.

Now, the students have committed themselves to work on this year's state community service project "Buddy Up for Reading."

To do so, they have assisted children by teaching games and reading stories, conducted 'book time' for the young children who attended the school parent-teacher conferences, written and performed an assembly titled "Literacy Boot Camp" for third graders and conducted a district-wide writing contest for all third graders.

The students are hoping that those efforts to promote literacy will earn them a gold level recognition award in April, according to Wertz.

In addition to the many activities the FCCLA students have already begun, they are also working on individual and team projects of their own design related to family life, community services or careers. They will then be expected to prepare a presentation describing their projects for the panel of judges at the Michigan FCCLA State Leadership Conference.

"The students are still exploring other projects they would like to do at the com-

petition, but in order for them to compete, we need to raise enough money," she said.

Wertz said the group needs to generate \$1,300 for transportation, plus \$200 per student for hotel and registration.

Donations can also be sent to the high school, 501 W. Columbia, to the attention of Donna Wertz, the FCCLA Advisor.

For more information, or to make a donation, phone 734-697-9133.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 11, 2005

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Cindy King, Clerk Joannie Payne, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Trustee Phillip Hart, Trustee John Herman and Trustee Jeffery Jahr. Absent and excused: Trustee Walter Rochowiak. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Bryce Kelley, Public Safety Director Gerald Champagne, Recreation and Facilities Deputy Director Vincent Averill, Executive Assistant Susan Ireland, Secretary Kathleen Cline and an audience of seven (7).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

MINUTES: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of December 20, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Herman moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2004 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Charles Mott and Stanley Daniels stated they are trying to "reform" a Van Buren/Belleville Lions Club. Interested persons may contact Patrick Hunt at Brown's Funeral Home at 734.697.4500 for additional information.

A letter of thanks to Officer Buxton and a UPS driver for their assistance with delivery of a misdirected Christmas package to her grandchildren.

Director Champagne thanked Public Safety staff who participated in the "Shop with a Cop" program and other volunteer work in the community.

Trustee Hart the Board Representative to the Public Safety Committee stated he attended his first meeting held earlier tonight and was pleased to see Director Champagne had a grasp of what is needed in the community and the Committee has been provided a list of objectives for the department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve Resolution 2005-03 the fee structure for Van Buren Parks. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-01 the Poverty Exemption Guidelines for Van Buren Township 2005 Board of Review. Carried.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to adopt Resolution 2005-02 the Annual Block Party and Road Closure Permit. Carried.

Payne moved, Hart seconded to authorize the Supervisor to sign the 2005 Wayne County Annual Permit number A-30045 A. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Herman seconded to approve the January 11, 2005 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: On Thursday, January 20th at 7:00 p.m. "Y-oopers, Wolverines, & Buckeyes The 'Toledo War' of 1835" program will be held at the Belleville Area Museum.

Township Administrative offices will be closed on Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): A resident inquired about the change on Ecorse Road banning left-hand turns onto Northbound I-275. He stated the new Michigan left needs to be better publicized. He also discussed the poor road condition on Belleville Road between Ecorse and Van Born Roads. Supervisor King stated the repaving project between Van Born and Tyler Roads will not be completed until Spring of 2005 and the road condition is to be monitored throughout the winter by Wayne County Roads Division.

A resident stated his opinion regarding the possible Saratoga project, the need for a mission statement and view on staff.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Hart moved, Herman seconded to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: January 20, 2005

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR SPECIAL LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS DISTRICT ELECTION Tuesday, February 22, 2005

To the Qualified Electors of CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN –
WAYNE COUNTY
LINCOLN CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS DISTRICT ONLY

Notice is hereby given that Friday, January 24, 2005 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live, you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

Qualified electors may also register to vote or change their address in the following manners:

In Person:

At the township clerk's office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours. At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.

At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some offices of the Commission for the Blind.

At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

By Mail:

By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

JOANNIE D. PAYNE, CLERK
734.699.8909
46425 TYLER RD.
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, MI 48111

Qualifications for Registration

1. Applicant is at least 18 years of age.
2. Resident of Van Buren Township for at least 30 days.
3. Citizen of the United States.

Note:

A Person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age or are handicapped.

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk's Office. The deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the February 22, 2005 Special Lincoln Consolidated Schools District Election is Saturday, February 19, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Clerk's office.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: January 20, 2005

Lambert: Development, ideas bring progress to city

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Community development, banishing blight, casinos, containing costs and improving services in the City of Romulus was the focus of Mayor Alan Lambert's State of the City Address on Tuesday Afternoon.

A packed contingent of city employees, residents and elected officials gathered at the Best Western Gateway International Hotel to listen to Lambert's speech, which highlighted progress the city made in 2004.

"In summarizing our record of achievement in the last year, two words come to mind: revitalization and progress," Lambert said. "We all know that Michigan communities now compete with each other to bring in new development for tax base and jobs."

Cited as positive developments in the last year are the impending opening of a new senior center, which was financed through grant dollars and surplus funds from the city's Downtown Development Authority (DDA). The new center will allow the city to expand current programs such as healthcare assistance, Meals on Wheels, and prescription programs to senior citizens.

Other new developments include the conversion from an all-volunteer fire department to a full-time, paid fire

department. In an earlier interview, Lambert said he believes that doubling the size of the department and making each firefighter a paid employee is worth the expense to residents.

"You just have to know that if somebody has a heart attack in the middle of the night that someone will be there to help them," he said. "This is important because a volunteer has to get out of bed, get dressed, drive to the station house and get the truck. It's just not feasible anymore."

Lambert also touted two programs designed to curtail the effect of blight in the city: The first is a 2001 program called "Operation Fresh Look," which is a program for evaluating and determining whether abandoned or unsuitable structures should be demolished. To date, 46 buildings have been demolished. Three-hundred abandoned vehicles were also towed away as part of the program.

But the State of Michigan decision to shutter the secretary of state office in Romulus was a low point for the city, said Lambert.

"Although we were very unhappy with the secretary of state's decision to close their Romulus office," He said. "We fought hard to stop the closing, and even asked the governor to intervene, but unfortunately, some decisions

are beyond city control."

Announced during the speech were plans for a 70,000-square-foot recreation complex to be housed after an existing facility on Wayne Road is renovated. The city has never had its own recreation center.

"Since the 1970s, we've had bond issues that have failed because residents couldn't afford the additional taxes," Lambert said. Now, we found a way to build one without raising taxes through TIFA (Tax Increment Finance Authority) funds. This is part of our identity. We shouldn't be using other community's recreation facilities or the schools at this point."

Councilman Mike Prybyla said he's satisfied with the course of the city so far. "I think we're making progress," he said. The senior citizens center and the recreation centers could be a good thing for us. The administration is leading us in the right direction"

Several city council members were in attendance at the event.

Lambert faces what could be a difficult re-election bid in November: Longtime Romulus Councilwoman Debbie Romak announced her plans last week to challenge the mayor. Lambert has served one term as mayor, and previously served as a member of the Romulus City Council and as a Romulus Police Officer.

(Editor's note: Last week the photo of these students, below, was published on the front page of The Romulus Roman inadvertently captioned as members of the board of education. We apologize to both the students, who were identified as school board members and to the school board members who were identified as students.)



Star struck

The Romulus High School Drama Department recently presented its production of "Spaces," directed by Language Arts teacher Monica Lewis. The cast and crew members who brought the four one-act plays to life are: Megan Bearman, James Blanton, Alicia Bracy, Kerri Britz, Tiffany Conradson, Dekarele Edridge, Elizabeth Hadion, Sara Hurt, Audra Howard, Jennifer Lammers, Garret Lefler, Eric Rister, Kyle Sherwood, Shauntya Simon and Kevin Strobbe.

Due recognition

Members of the Romulus Board of Education officially marked the observance of School Board Recognition Month" recently. The theme this year is "Building a Brighter Future for Children." Shown here are (back row) school trustees Thomas Kuderick, Betty Lenossi and Neima White, along with (first row) Treasurer Ken Meintkeiwicz, Vice- president April Frayer, President Cheryle Buckley and Secretary Celeste Roscoe.



Robber - Man could face life in prison

FROM PAGE 1

Farmington Hills police confiscated about \$6,700, a small amount of crack cocaine, heroin and marijuana. A sawed-off shotgun was also confiscated, Smith said. It is unclear whether the money was part of what was taken from the Super Y, Lazarski said.

Coleman was recently re-

leased from prison after serving a 10-year sentence for another Romulus break-in. He was identified by witnesses from a photo lineup, Smith said.

It remains to be seen whether the store owner will get his money back. "That's between him and the Farmington Hills Police, because they made the arrest," Lazarski said.

Coleman will return to court

next week for a preliminary hearing.

Smith said police are still seeking another man who was in the Highlander at the time of the robbery. He is described as a black male with a light complexion in his mid-30s. Anyone with information about the case should call Lazarski at the Romulus Police Detective Bureau at (734) 342-6857.

Teen - Family awareness helped police

FROM PAGE 1

amount of crack cocaine, police said. Police would not release any information about Johnson's criminal record, except to say he has not previously faced charges of this nature.

Lazarski said police are seeing more predatory behavior involving cell phones and computers, but said it's easy to make sure a child is safe.

"The mother did the right thing in this case," he said. "She called us as soon as she found

out (about the harassment). A lot of kids think they can take care of these things themselves, but they can't. The best way to prevent these types of situations is to communicate with your kids."

Johnson is due in court next week for a preliminary hearing.

Sewers - Repairs badly needed

FROM PAGE 1

where the water is coming in and figure out how to stop it," he said.

The sanitary sewer system should not be receiving water from storm water runoff.

The project will be funded through 40 percent federal monies and 60 percent local money, according to Carl Brooks, director of the department of public works. The total cost will be about \$900,000, of which the City of Romulus will pay half. This year, that means the city will pay \$100,000, according to a budget amendment members of the city council approved last week. The bulk of the costs, or \$450,000, will come due during the next

fiscal year, according to Brooks.

"We'll need to budget some money next year, as well," he said.

The project is an important one, however, to the overall health of the Rouge River Watershed. The requirements the city needs to meet are no different than any other municipality within the Rouge River Watershed.

Councilman Charles Miller said that, even though it is a large sum of money, it's still better than having to pay for the entire project. The grant funds available at this stage of the project may not be available later on, he said.

"By being involved now, we'll be saving money in the future," he said.

Center - A first for the city

FROM PAGE 1

courts, baseball diamonds and classrooms are included in the plan. However, the current plan will also offer an ice rink in the winter and an in-line skating rink in the summer. The city is working with an architectural firm to determine the layout of the new center.

Councilman Mike Prybyla said the new recreation center would be beneficial to families.

"This is something that has broad support and is great for residents - especially the young people," he said. "We'll have a senior

center for the older people, but young adults need a place, too."

Recreation Director Herb Buckley did not immediately return calls seeking comment about the prospect of a new facility. Currently, parks and recreation programs are carried out at some area school facilities, public parks and recreation centers in other communities, Lambert said.

Keyes said city officials are hoping for a groundbreaking by spring 2006. The city will also have public hearing regarding the new center to solicit public input in the near future, Keyes said.

Church hosts clothing drive

People who might need new clothing - or want to unload some clothing they no longer need - are invited to the Maranatha Gospel Church for a clothing drive.

The church is located at 35413 Beverly Road in Romulus. Pastor Cathy Smith said the church is having the drive to help people who have been

affected by sluggish economic conditions.

The event will begin at noon on Saturday, Jan. 22, and run until 6 p.m., said Smith. Clothing for men, women and children that is in good condition will be taken in for distribution to those in need.

For more information, call the church at (734) 595-1238.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

You'll need new numbers for your 2005 tax planning



Take these tax law changes and inflation adjustments into account as you do your 2005 tax planning. The standard mileage rate for business driving increases from 37.5¢ to 40.5¢ per mile, effective January 1, 2005. The rate for medical and moving mileage increases from 14¢ to 15¢ per mile. The rate for charitable mileage remains at 14¢

per mile.

The first-year expensing limit for the purchase of business equipment increases from \$102,000 to \$105,000. The expensing election phases out once total purchases for 2005 exceed \$420,000 (up from \$410,000 for 2004).

The maximum earnings subject to social security tax increases from \$87,900 to \$90,000. As before, all earned income is subject to Medicare tax.

The earnings limit for retirees under age 65 increases from \$11,640 to \$12,000 for 2005. Social security benefits will be reduced \$1 for every \$2 in earnings above this limit.

The nanny tax threshold remains at \$1,400 for 2005. If you pay household

workers more than this amount during the year, you're responsible for payroll taxes. The kiddie tax threshold remains at \$1,600. If your child under age 14 has more than \$1,600 of unearned income in 2005 (e.g., dividends and interest income), the excess will be taxed at your highest rate.

The maximum individual retirement account (IRA) contribution you can make in 2005 increases to \$4,000 (\$4,500 if you are 50 or older).

The maximum amount of wages

employees can put into a 401(k) plan increases from \$13,000 to \$14,000. The maximum allowed for SIMPLE plans increases from \$9,000 to \$10,000. If you are 50 or older, you can contribute up to \$18,000 to a 401(k) and \$12,000 to a SIMPLE plan.

The estate tax exemption remains at \$1.5 million, but the top estate tax rate drops from 48% to 47%.

For details or tax planning assistance, call us.

734-455-1040

Listen to Fred Grant's radio show "Inside Small Business" every weekend on or call Fred at 734-455-1040



Covering Your Assets Part IV

We've discussed different sources of down payment money and what lenders require to verify these funds. 401K or retirement accounts are sometimes used for down payment or as a source for reserves. Typically your most recent account statement will be satisfactory. However because of the nature of these funds you should keep some things in mind.



Nelson Wilson
AVP-Senior Loan Officer
The West Team/Chase Home Finance

If you are using these accounts for your down payment some plans allow you to 'cash out' a portion and other types allow you to borrow against it. Do keep copies of all the paperwork concerning the transaction. Include a copy of the check and the deposit receipt.

"If you are borrowing against your 401K some lenders will include this as an additional debt."

If you are borrowing against your 401K some lenders will include this as an additional debt. Though this may seem silly, since it is your own money, their view is that it is a monthly obligation. If you are tight on your qualifying ratios this could be an important consideration. It may affect whether you choose to 'cash out' or borrow.

Also if considering using a 401k or retirement account for down payment it is a good idea to consult with your financial planner or counselor to see if this is indeed the best choice for you considering your saving, investment and retirement goals. Extra thought should be given to using 401K or retirement accounts for down payments. Because there is a long term cost for doing so. And that is the cost of lost opportunity. That cost should be carefully weighed.

Hearing loss, the invisible and often forgotten handicap!

Many of us participate in some form of medical preventative maintenance program, either with a 6-month cleaning at the Dentist, a bi-yearly eye examination by the Optometrist or our yearly physical with the Internist. However, when was the last time you had your hearing tested by an Audiologist?

What is an Audiologist anyway? I hear this question often when asked what I do for a living. Simply, an Audiologist is an individual who provides diagnostic testing and rehabilitative treatment for the hearing-impaired population. Audiologists test patient's of all ages with various etiologies of hearing loss. They are employed in hospitals, schools, government, and private clinics. All Audiologists either have a Masters or Doctoral degree in Audiology from an accredited University.

Essentially, Audiologists perform hearing screenings and diagnostic testing for patients who feel they are having difficulty hearing and understanding speech.

In 2000, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' recommends a hearing screening for everyone once every 10 years from 18 to 50 years of age, with more frequent screenings after age 50. If a hearing loss is diagnosed, a comprehensive audiological examination by an Audiologist is recommended. Follow-up audiological testing thereafter is recommended every 2-3 years. The need for this type of testing is increasingly important, because of the incidence of hearing impairment in the United States. Hearing loss is not just a problem of the elderly either. According to a 1996 report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, more than 28 million Americans of all ages are thought to have some degree of hearing impairment. Dr. Kochkin³ also has stated that since 1994, more than 1 million "baby boomers" between the ages of 45 and 54 have acknowledged a hearing problem, which required some type of audiological management.

In a recent article by Drs. Newman and Sandridge⁴ from the Cleveland Clinic, "Consequences of Hearing Loss" was discussed. They essentially stated, "hearing loss can seriously affect a person's quality of life". Limiting ones ability to listen in noisy situations and reducing participation in many social events that requires communicating with other people. Psychosocial effects of hearing loss also are seen through signs of withdrawal, cognitive loss, depression, social isolation, or psychosis. There are also risks of misclassification of the severity of senile dementia in elderly people with hearing loss. These are all excellent examples of why regular hearing screening or hearing testing should be performed to patients of all ages.

If you or someone you love believes you could benefit from a hearing test, I would strongly recommend that you consult with an Audiologist for purposes of obtaining a comprehensive audiological examination.

Gerald Hug MA, CCC-A
Clinical Audiologist
445 S. Harvey St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 451-0800



Gerald Hug MA, CCC-A
Clinical Audiologist



When to Sell Real Estate

Many individuals have done well by investing in real estate over the years. Some of their investments have been in vacant land and others in rental properties. But there often comes a point in time when real estate, particularly residential rentals, is too C. Curtis and Associates, Inc. demanding an investment compared to other assets such as stocks and bonds. So what is the best way to transfer the responsibilities of managing or even totally getting the asset out of your portfolio?

With income properties, you could just hire a property manager. But sometimes this isn't cost efficient or perhaps you've had enough and just want out.

There are several ways to remove real estate from your portfolio and perhaps increase your income at the same time.

- An outright sale is the simplest. Tax consequences, however, can take up to 20% of your long-term gains (plus State tax plus recapture tax if it applies).

- An installment sale can ease the tax bite, but you will have to wait longer to get your money (yet pay all the tax today).

- A 1031 exchange to a less demanding or higher income producing property could simplify your life and defer income taxes. For example, selling your apartment building and using the equity to buy a McDonald's location results in less demanding property as the commercial tenant usually takes care of all property responsibilities.

- If you also want to help a charity, you could put the property into a charitable remainder trust that would sell the real estate without paying capital gains tax (and you an income as long as you live and even stretched to the next generation).

- You could use a "private annuity" if you desire to transfer the property to heirs and want to immediately remove it from your estate.

Another alternative would be to get a new mortgage to free up cash that you could put in other investments to further portfolio diversification. Before you make any changes though, you might want to take some factors into consideration. For instance, what does your family think of this? Do your children expect to get or stay involved with the real estate? And supposed your married. Would your spouse have the ability or even want to take care of real estate if you died? If not, you might end up leaving him or her with a bundle of problems and responsibilities.

Coming up with the appropriate strategy to remove real estate from your portfolio needs to be approached with a coordinated effort that addresses your financial, family, legal, and tax situation.

* C. Curtis and Associates, Inc.
(734) 844-3400



Curt Whipple



Nelson Wilson
AVP-Senior Loan Officer

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The West Team



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OPINION

State budget creates many innocent victims

There's a familiar mantra that can be heard throughout the State of Michigan these days that originates in virtually every city, township or school district: stop taking our money.

Cities throughout the state have had to cut back on their own budgets – at times at the risk of sacrificing vital services – due to reductions in state shared revenue.

School districts have been forced to cut into their budget reserves and look at ways to maximize enrollment and provide the same services – and educational opportunities – with less money as their foundation allowance has been frozen and sometimes reduced.

Even developing townships, riding the prosperous wave of additional tax revenues and income from building fees, have cast a wary eye on the situation under the advice that it's a situation every municipality will have to face, eventually.

Unless, of course, the current budget situation is fixed, or the formula that provides these funding sources to the various municipalities is altered.

Unfortunately, it doesn't look like it will happen any time soon. A recent estimate from the Department of Treasury, along with the House and Senate Fiscal Agency determined that revenues would come in about \$406 million less than expected during the remainder of this fiscal year, a figure that would increase to about \$737 million in the next fiscal year.

School officials have already been told, despite another plea to the State Board of Education last week, to expect another year of frozen foundation allowances, and perhaps another pro-rating of their funding (i.e., more cuts) from the state. City and township officials are already bracing for reductions in state shared revenue, at a time when there is little, if any, fat in their budgets to trim.

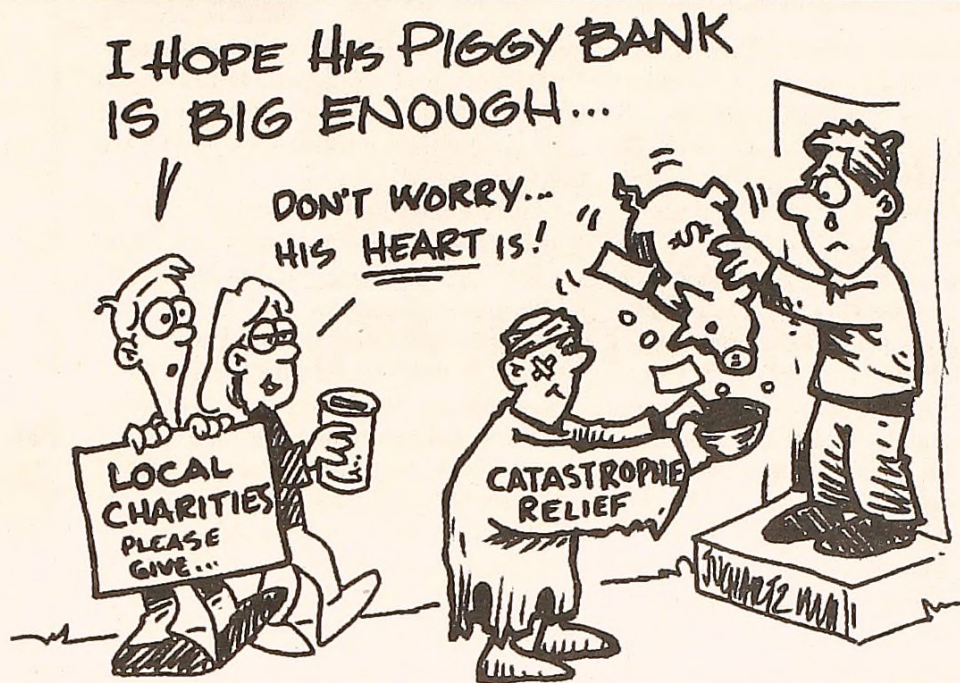
It brings up another mantra: nothing is off the table. City and school officials use it when they describe the difficult decisions that lay in the months ahead. Most likely, school districts, their reserves depleted to dangerously low levels, will most likely look at cutting personnel, maximizing their educational space (which ultimately means an increase in class size) and dropping programs.

It's a situation that is just as frustrating to city officials, who also feel they've done their part to weather the economic crisis. They've made their cuts, absorbed what they could and they should feel pretty good about it. It's no wonder they feel their protests are falling on deaf ears.

Finances are not the only department where their lobbying efforts have had little effect. The decision to close some secretary of state offices and expand others has drawn criticism, in part because of the baffling criteria that factored into that decision. Impacted communities were informed that some of those factors include whether the offices are along major thoroughfares and bus routes – even though some of the closing facilities are on both.

There is no easy answer to the budget problem in the State of Michigan. The many factors that fed into the situation are varied and complicated, and it's not simply a matter of telling people they should go out and bolster the economy by spending more money. Like the municipalities and school districts themselves, they have less to spend because they're paying more for items like health care as well as goods and services. Making changes to Proposal A or the Headlee Amendment is a long, difficult proposition, as well.

It's time, though, to say enough is enough. Local municipalities and school districts have done their part in reducing their own spending, in many cases all but eliminating a budget reserve that they had worked diligently to build up. They've done their part. Now it's time for the higher ups to do theirs.



Bad experience is good teacher

This one goes out to the nameless good Samaritan that helped me out Monday morning on Michigan Avenue and Second Street, here in Wayne.

And I needed help, too. I had just slipped while trying to push my non-responsive car across three lanes of traffic and banged my knee on the frozen ground. The tiny bit of momentum I had built up was enough for the car to drag me along like a streamer from the handlebars on a child's bike. It must have been a pretty sorry – and probably a pretty funny – sight.

I should backtrack a bit, though.

Until about 15 minutes before that, it had been a typical Monday, even though it was Martin Luther King Day. I had slept through my 'wake up early to get a head start on the week' alarm, which goes off at 5 a.m. I discarded all the spoiled food in my refrigerator, decided I wasn't hungry anyway, and set off to work – which is only about a mile and half away.

Sadly, my latest 'mileage experiment' happened at an inopportune time. By the time I crossed the eastbound portion of Michigan Avenue, I knew I was in trouble; the car was accelerating and decelerating a lot more sporadically than I tend to – which is saying something. I pulled over and, sure enough, the cruiser

sputtered and died.

I still had some options, and I decided to give my wife a call and ask her to grab the gas can in the shed and come bail me out. She arrived within minutes, my 4-year-old son Henry bundled up in full winter gear – over his pajamas. As always, he was full of questions and good cheer. I had neither.

I dumped the gas in, and Lisa went to a nearby station, filled up the can again, and I poured in some more. The real problem set in when I tried so many times to start up the car that the battery gave out.

Great. Well, I knew I certainly couldn't leave it where it was and there was a fetchingly empty parking lot a scant three lanes away.

No problem. I had pushed cars before (although not through any failed mileage experiment). I knew how to do it.

So I turned the key, hoping to roll down the window and push from the outside.

Frozen shut. The profanity was flowing by then. I wouldn't have been surprised to see the white cloud of my breath turn black because of the words and phrases that came out of my mouth.

But the light turned green and I put my strength into crossing the busy roadway without impeding traffic any further.

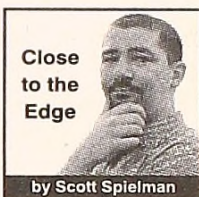
I didn't make it, of course. I managed to block two lanes, while drivers in the third lane drove blissfully through the intersection. The rest of them came up with the same solution to the problem: let's stay in our warm cars and honk our horns at him. That'll help.

That's when the Samaritan showed up. We muscled the car out of the way and he vanished before I could even gather the breath to thank him.

There are a couple of lessons to be learned here. The first of which (and I've heard this several times since then) is to not let your car run on fumes when it's bone-achingly cold outside. OK, I get it now.

The second is more general and even more important. When we experience something we don't like, something that may offend us or, God forbid, slow us down, we have a tendency to call it out, shout about it, honk our horns or whatever. It's easier to complain about something than it is to take time to get involved and help solve the problem. We'd all be a lot better off if we took the second approach, rather than the first.

That's not a bad lesson to learn, first thing in the morning, on Martin Luther King Day.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Eat your fruits and vegetables

Get your daily five helpings of fruits and veggies

There's an old saying "an apple a day keeps the doctor away." What it really means is to be sure to eat your fruits and vegetables.

In fact, the FDA recommends at least five servings a day to help maintain your health – apples, okra, bananas, spinach, broccoli, whatever you like.

You can have them with meals, and they make quick, healthy, easy-to-eat snacks. They're loaded with the natural vitamins and nutrients that we all need.

They can provide a quick

energy boost as well as help to satisfy those "cravings" we all get every once in a while. Research also indicates they can help lower your risk for certain cancers, stroke, heart disease, high blood pressure and other conditions.

There's no doubt that fruits and vegetables pack a wallop and their effects are long lasting.

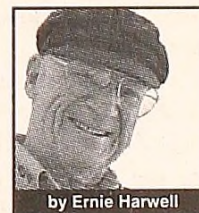
So eat that apple, and include more of your favorite fruits and veggies.

Take care of yourself before your health is lnnnnnggg gone.

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four

decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone.

Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.



by Ernie Harwell

JOURNAL

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Remembering our own 'Railroad Jack'

The world is full of characters. In our politically correct age one has to wonder how Railroad Jack would be perceived. A genius? A hobo? A bum? A mentally ill unfortunate? A dreamer and wanderer? An object of respect or ridicule? Someone to be celebrated or institutionalized?

Railroad Jack was born Harry Cooper in Oshkosh, WS, in 1854. He excelled in school and attended college, intending to become a doctor, until he dropped out and began a life of wandering. He took off with a hammock over his shoulder which he hooked to the bottom of a boxcar at night to hitch rides, going mostly between Detroit and Chicago, though he ventured much further afield when the mood suited. He claimed to have been in every state and most every major city in the country. He told of visiting kings and queens of many countries. His life would become one continuous source of entertainment, bringing history to the railroad depot, the church picnic, the carnival and any other group of people open to being enlightened. He dressed formally, complete with top hat. (Nearer the end of his life, he adopted a more comfortable style: conductor-type cap, blue flannel shirt, blue serge trousers and shoes with no socks.) He carried a case that in large white letters boldly advertised him as "RAILROAD JACK CURBSTONE ORATOR".

He stopped in Wayne many times and high school students would attempt to stump him, asking history questions they were sure he could not answer. They were always disappointed as he would invariably answer correctly, always urging faster paced, harder questions. If he answered incorrectly, he promised to pay the questioner a dollar. As far as anyone knows, he never paid out even one dollar. It was esti-

mated he knew 5,000 historical biographies, 10,000 dates and if one supplied him with their birth date he would tell them in two seconds the day of the week upon which they were born.

Railroad Jack adopted the University of Michigan and spent two months each summer reading books in the university library. While the professors are said to have only tolerated him, the students loved him.

Many students found him to have information in his head that they had been unable to find in books. In fact, "Jack", though he labeled himself a "journalist, public speaker and all around entertainer", thought himself to be unbalanced and wished his brain to be studied at the U of M Medical School upon his death so it could be discovered what gave him the ability to remember.

In Detroit, he met and was befriended by Father Thomas R. Carey, a friendship that would last until his death. Carey was impressed by his knowledge. It was also reported that Henry Ford saw him and the red cart he adopted after he stopped "riding the rails"—he said he regretted ever having begun traveling under boxcars as it was a bad example for young people—and gave him a new car with which to pull his cart.

In 1933, Railroad Jack had an accident that destroyed his car and red cart. He stayed with some friends in Ann Arbor, attended the Augusta homecoming where he won the milk drinking and pie eating contests, and moved on to Coldwater to await construction of a new cart. There he—a rare and indefinable individual—died of a heart attack, not too distant from the railroad he loved and which gave him his name.

Finding History



by Valerie Lutzman

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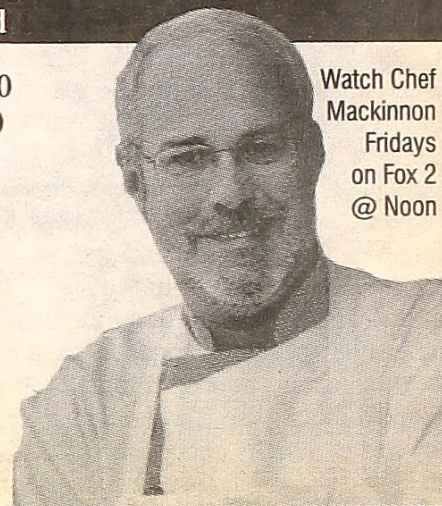
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Letters

Principal thanks business owner

To the editor:

As readers of your paper certainly know, the Michigan state legislature has frozen public school funding for three consecutive years. In the face of rising health care, retirement, and energy costs, innumerable districts throughout the state are facing catastrophic budget deficits forcing across-the-board cuts in services to students.

Over the last eight weeks, the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education has begun to make similar difficult decisions in order to balance its budget. Throughout the process, community members have been vocal in their support of our students, teachers, and administrators. In many instances, board members heard imaginative ideas to cut costs or raise funds.

On behalf of the entire Belleville High School faculty and staff, I would like to thank one Belleville resident in particular for taking a concrete step to support our school and students. Mr. Jerry Boehms, the president and owner of Graduate Services, Inc., a local business contracted by the high school to outfit our students with caps and gowns during graduation commencement, has generously donated \$4,200 in materials for this year's event. Mr. Boehms, knowing that our commencement budget was significantly reduced by the board, stepped forward to help our students. He was not

asked and he has not asked for acknowledgment. Mr. Boehms simply saw a need and met it.

Thanks you, Mr. Boehms, for your generosity and example of selflessness. Your gift to Belleville High School cannot be measured in dollars.

Kevin Kelly
Principal, Belleville High School

Club officers thank contributors

To the editor:

The Southwestern Wayne and Romulus Club would like to extend our warmest wishes and appreciation to the following individuals, organizations and businesses for their generous donations to our Holiday Dinner Fundraiser: UAW Region 1A Jimmy Settles, Applebee's, Lodge Lanes, Casino's Pizzeria, Kathy and Lonny Smith, Red Apple Restaurant, Mammoth Video, Dimitri's Restaurant, Tim Horton's-Belleville, Merriman Street Grill, A & A Oil Change (Romulus), Subway (Eureka Road), Pharmacy Outlet (Romulus), Big Boy (Belleville), Belleville Grill, Bayou Grill.

Thank you again for your support. We would like to wish our communities of Belleville, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, Huron Township and Romulus a very Merry Christmas and a bright, Happy New Year.

Sharon Curson
Jack Trumble
SWDC President
Romulus President

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to: The Journal · P.O. Box 701422, Plymouth, Mich 48170.

FULL STRAP SLIP-ON



Alden

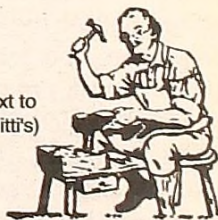
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Renowned gospel singers to perform in Belleville

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The Dixie Melody Boys, who hail from Kinston, NC, will soon bring their southern gospel sounds to Belleville.

According to Deana Surles Warren, a representative of the group, the gospel quartet has a goal of delivering a first-class performance filled with excitement, energy and lots of great traditional southern gospel music.

"These are the characteristics that have been instilled in each group member. Those characteristics, along with their desire to never compromise their responsibility to spread the gospel through southern gospel music in a professional manner have allowed them to firmly establish a place in the forefront of southern gospel Music," she said.

The Dixie Melody Boys formed more than four decades ago to spread the eternal message: Christ without compromise

is the foundation and cornerstone of any career in the ministry of gospel, according to the group.

The present members are Ed O'Neal, a 35-year gospel music veteran, who provides the bass vocals; Dustin Sweatman, who contributes the baritone vocals; and Dan Keeton, the newest member of the group, who sings tenor.

Through their years of performing, the Dixie Melody Boys have enjoyed some success, including a Grammy nomination and numerous fan nominations from *The Singing News Magazine*, which is a southern gospel music publication. O'Neal, who is also the group owner and manager, has received accolades that include an award for his long-time service to the community and the southern gospel industry, as well as an induction into the Southern Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame.

The group has also made sev-

eral television appearances and radio performances of their more than 20 top 40 hits which include: *I'll Be Living That Way*, *I Won't Compromise* and their current single, *God is Still God*.

According to the popular gospel music artists, the miles on the road may sometimes be long, but God continues to bless the hard work of his faithful servants, as he continually offers new excitement with each new endeavor.

"The group's energy and excitement, coupled with their exceptional vocal blend is appealing to audiences of all ages, creating an exciting evening of musical pleasure," added Warren.

Concerts will take place at 7 p.m. on Jan. 29 and at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 30 at the Liberty Baptist Church in Belleville. The event is free for the entire family to enjoy.

For more information, call the church at 734-728-5214.



The Dixie Melody Boys (above) will bring their Southern Gospel sounds to Belleville on Jan. 29 and 30 at the Liberty Baptist Church.



Here the Dixie Melody Boys spend an afternoon in the studio to record one of their 20 top 40 hits such as *I'll Be Living That Way*.

MINUTES THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD JANUARY 3, 2005 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear;
Present: LeRoy Burcroff, Randolph Gear, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth
Excused: Councilman William Crova.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

- Agenda**
- Minutes**
 - Minutes of the Regular Meeting Held December 27, 2004.
- Petitioners**
 - CA One Services, Inc./Wayne County Airport Authority Co-Licensee.
- Chairpersons Report, Randolph Gear, Mayor Pro Tem**
- Mayors Report - Alan Lambert, Mayor**
 - Amendment to Policy 28 - Military Leave.
- Administrative Report - Linda R Choate, Clerk**
 - PC-2004-033 Second Reading and Final Approval - Rezoning of 5.01+- Acres, 28355 Beverly Road. ****Deleted.**
 - PC-2004-034 Second Reading and Final Adoption - Rezoning of 10.41+- Acres, 28455 Beverly Road. ****Deleted.**
 - PC-2004-035 Second Reading and Final Adoption - Rezoning of 6.015+- Acres, South Side of Van Born Road, West of Inkster Road *** Deleted.**
- For Your Information:**
 - Semcog Regional Update.
 - Downriver Mutual Aid Regular Meeting.
- Discussion**
- Unfinished Business**
- New Business**
- Communication**
- Adjournment**

- Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to approve the agenda as amended

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-001

- Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held December 27, 2004 as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-002

- Motion by Burcroff, supported by Prybyla to grant approval with the recommendation from the Romulus Police Department; a new full year Class C Liquor License to CA One Services, Inc. d/b/a/ Thee Irish Pub, reference #272958 and Wayne County Airport Authority, Co-Licensees issued under MCL 436.1561(10) non-trans

ferable with Sunday sales & Official Permit (food) at McNamara Terminal, Concourse-B, location W10 (B3-321) Romulus, MI 48242 Wayne County.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion carried Unanimously.

05-003

- Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to concur with the recommendation of Julie Albert, City Assessor and re-appoint Beverly McAnally to the Board of Review; term to expire December 31, 2006.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-004

- Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Prybyla to adopt a memorial resolution for the family of Freda Crova, beloved Mother of City Councilman William Crova.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried. Unanimously.

- Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman's Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-005

- Motion by Romak,supported by Miller to adopt amendment to Policy #28 - Military Leave, retro-active to December 1, 2003.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
.Nays - None.
Motion Camed Unammously.

6A1. *Deleted

6A2. *Deleted.

6A3. *Deleted.

- Motion by Romak, supported Wadsworth by to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unammously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC
City Clerk

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held January 3, 2005.

Publish: January 20, 2005

OBITUARIES

TARLETON, Ruby Elizabeth

Ruby Elizabeth Tarleton, 82, of Orlando, FLA, formerly of Dearborn, died Dec. 31.

Among her survivors are her children, Donald J. Tarleton of Orlando and Debra "DeeDee" J. (Paul) Rawlins of Belleville; brothers, Alex Sovey and Earl "Tiny" Sovey, foth of Escanaba; a sister, Betty Blomstrom of St. Paul, MN; 10 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Dr. John N. Grenfell III officiating.

Interment was at Roseland Park Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

EARLE, Willard Henry

Willard Henry "Dude" Earle, 92, of Romulus, died Jan. 8.

Among his survivors are his daughter, Mary Ann (Richard) Wildman of Loveland, CO; sons, Daniel (Nancy) Earle of Ann Arbor and Michael Earle; a brother, Richard A. Earle of Springhill, FLA; grandchildren, Scott, Brian, Daniel and Betsey, and great-grandchildren, Rachael, Susan, Alex and Jacob.

Mr. Earle retired from the Ford Motor Co. Rouge Complex in 1971.

Funeral services were at the Crane Funeral Home in Romulus with Father Alexander Wytrwal of St. Stephen Catholic Church in New Boston, officiating.

FEEBACK, Catherine M.

Catherine M. Feedback, 73, of Belleville, formerly of Gibraltar, died Jan. 5.

Among her survivors are her children, Christopher Feedback of Sumpter Township, Deborah Feedback of Belleville and Charles Feedback of Carleton; siblings, Dick Danzak of Nevada and Gloria Danzak and Danny Danzak, both of Michigan; three grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

WHITE, Thomas W.

Thomas W. White, 64, of Belleville, formerly of Pinckney, died Jan. 5.

Among his survivors are his wife of nearly 30 years, Margaret Ann (Zdun) White; brothers, Ronald (Judie) White of New Port Richie, FLA and David French of Ann Arbor; sisters, Lisa (Dean) Dover of Manchester and Cathy (Joey) Mull of Ypsilanti; mother-in-law Tilda Zdun of Belleville; brother-in-law, Anthony Zdun of Plymouth, and a nephew-in-law, Marc

Zdun of Plymouth.

Mr. White retired from the Ypsilanti Ford Motor Co. plant after 35 years of employment.

He was a member of the September Days Senior Citizens and a former member of the Ypsilanti Masonic Lodge.

Funeral services were at Bethany Bible Church in Belleville where Mr. White was a member and enjoyed working with the youth. The Rev. John F. Losen and Pastor Kenneth Belch officiated at the services.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home.

KEELING, Danny Thomas

Danny Thomas Keeling, 48, of Canton Township, died Jan. 9.

Among his survivors are his companion Laura Foster; siblings, Valerie (Roger) Storch of Escanaba, Debra (Earl) Staton of Grass Kale, Ricky (Darlene) Keeling of Belleville and Linda Keeling of Georgia, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown funeral Home with Dr. John N. Grenfell III officiating.

CHURCHMAN, Catherine Elizabeth

Catherine Elizabeth "Kitty" Churchman, 82, of Belleville, formerly of Redford Township, died Jan. 6.

Among her survivors are her sons, Fred (Sue) Churchman of Howell, Ed (Kathi) Churchman of Fenton and Art (Margaret) Churchman of Westland; daughters, Nina Arp of Belleville and Nancy Dearing, also of Bellville; brothers, Wilbur Heller of Livonia and Jim (Joann) Heller of Florida; sisters, Helen Mader of Florida sisters-in-law, Mary Heller of Florida, Yvonne "Von" Churchman of New York and Margaret Churchman of Westland; 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Churchman was a member of the September Days Senior Citizens.

A funeral mass was celebrated by Father Thomas M. Cusick at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville where Mrs. Churchman was a member.

Interment was at Parkview Memorial Gardens in Livonia.

DAROCI, Lance A.

Lance A. Daroci, 36, of Belleville, died Jan. 5.

Among his survivors are his parents, Henry H. and Violet B. (Howard) Daroci of Belleville; sisters, Debra (Jerry) Stevens of Rega, Patricia (Phillip) Littleton of

Moorehead, KY, Sharon (Juan) Berrera of Belleville, Pamela (Paul) Pollard of Belleville and Lisa Greca of Belleville, and her paternal grandmother, Ethel Walters of Kalkaska.

Mr. Daroci was the owner of Hallmark Clean Care and Carpet Sales in Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Pastor John Paton officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville.

DUPIE, Donald James

Donald James Dupie, 74, a lifelong resident of the Belleville area, died Jan. 9.

Among his survivors are his sisters, Angeline Bennett of Westland and Marie (Ronald) Narravare of Brooklyn, many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

Mr. Dupie served in the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict.

He attended St. Stephens Catholic Church.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

EDWARDS, Jerry Brian

Jerry Brian Edwards, 70, of Ypsilanti, formerly of Taylor, died Jan. 8.

Among his survivors is his companion of more than 40 years, Todd J. Patterson; his mother-in-law, Jean Patterson-Brewer of Lansing; dear friends, John Tedrow of Belleville, David Gibbons of Ann Arbor, Janet (Monnie) Reed of Ypsilanti and Lee

Ann Kirkpatrick of Walled Lake.

Mr. Edwards was a member of the U.S. Army Reserves, and was well respected in the dog handling and show community.

He was a lifetime member of the Jackson Kennel Club, Poodle Club of Southeastern Michigan and the National Whippet Club. He held the all breed handler Boxer championship title for 19 years.

A celebration of life gathering will be scheduled at a later date.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

SMERDON, Kathleen

Kathleen (Babiasz) Smerdon, 57, of Romulus, formerly of Hamtramck, died Jan. 11.

Among her survivors are her companion, John Krupiski, her son, Glenn (Sue) Skonieczny; grandchildren, Casey, Jesse and Shelbi; a brother, Steve (Chris) Babiasz, and a nephew, James Babiasz.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Higgerson and Neal Funeral Home in Belleville.

WEATHERS, Clarence "Sonny"

Clarence "Sonny" William Weathers, 80, of Inkster, died Dec. 15.

Among his survivors are his sister, Barbara; a son, Clarence; three grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Weathers served in the Army in World War II and was a retired construction worker.

Funeral services were at the Penn Funeral Home.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

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NOTICE ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT COUNTY OF WAYNE

Annual School Election May 3, 2005

LAST DAY TO FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2005 at 4:00 P.M.

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Nominating petitions for filling two (2) vacancies as a Member of the Board of Education in the Romulus Community School District may be obtained from the office of the Romulus City Clerk, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

TWO (2) - FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS

Deadline for submission of nominating petitions is Tuesday, February 8, 2005 at 4 00 p.m. Prevailing Eastern Time. Petitions should contain a minimum of four (40) signatures and no more than 100 signatures of voters registered in the Romulus Community School District or Candidates may pay a One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) filing fee in lieu of filing petitions.

Linda R. Choate, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: January 20, 2005

Charter Township of Van Buren Bid Instructions for Van Buren Estates Subdivision Ash Tree Replacement Project

The Charter Township of Van Buren will be accepting sealed bids for the Van Buren Estates Ash Tree Replacement Project. The project entails the planting of 142 replacement trees in the road rights-of-way. The Van Buren Estates Subdivision is located south of Tyler Road, west of Haggerty Road, and north of the I-94 Service Drive. Bids must be sealed in an envelope marked "Ash Tree Replacement Project" and submitted to the office of the Township Clerk, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111. Bids will be accepted until 10:00 AM EST on Thursday, February 17, 2005 and will be publicly opened following the deadline.

Specifications and plans may be obtained from the Office of the Township Clerk, during normal business hours starting January 20, 2005. There will be a non-refundable charge in the amount of twenty five dollars (\$25.00). There will be an additional charge of five dollars (\$5.00) for mailing. For more information you may call (734) 699-8913.

The Charter Township of Van Buren reserves the right to waive any discrepancies or irregularities in the bids. The Township also reserves the right to reject any and all bids, and is not required to accept the low bid. The Charter Township of Van Buren is an equal opportunity employer.

Publish: January 20, 2004

THE SCENE

Million Dollar Baby

packs an unexpected and unforgettable wallop

OK, so you've seen it all before, right?

A young, underprivileged, but plucky boxer wanna-be approaches a crusty, legendary trainer at his seedy gym to teach her to really box and throw a punch. He resists but is worn down by his long-time friend and the pure determination of the girl. He teaches her everything she needs to know to get a championship fight. Ummmm, sort of *Rocky* meets *The Princess Diaries*.

Seen it all before? Nope, not a chance.

Director, star, producer and composer Clint Eastwood takes audiences places they never expected to go in *Million Dollar Baby*.

And he's as cunning and experienced as anyone who has been in movies for 40 years ought to be. Every cliché of the triumphant underdog movies of the '50s and '60s is pulled out—but handled so delicately, so honestly that even those who dislike or at best do not appreciate boxing, let alone women knocking each other senseless, will be rooting for Maggie Fitzgerald as portrayed by Academy Award winner Hilary Swank. Her performance as the determined and not-to-be-deterred Maggie is flawless.

And Eastwood gives audiences a performance and a character they will not soon forget. It is his Frankie Dunn that will leave the most lasting impression on viewers and prompt the most conversation and discussion. His Frankie is an old, worn, craggy 71-year-old man. Clintwood makes no cosmetic improvements or bow to vanity, here. He is what he is—as is Frankie. And that is an aging, crabby, regretful victim of the human condition traveling much too rapidly toward the end of his days.

Frankie carries a tremendous load of sorrow and regret. The weight of his pain bends his back and lives behind his eyes. He has attended mass at his local church every day for the past 23 years, but obviously cannot find the forgiveness or peace he seeks. His relationship with his priest provides much of the comic relief in the film, as Frankie is not a man who hesitates to ask questions, difficult ones, about his faith. But no matter what his questions are, his devotion is unquestioned. Even his arthritic, aging knees do not keep him from his prayers, and he prays for the same thing: that his long estranged daughter and granddaughter be kept safe.

The reason for his estrangement from his family is a mystery Eastwood never reveals—but Frankie has written to his daughter every day for years, and every letter is returned to be stored among the others in boxes in his closet. Whatever the cause, Eastwood captures Frankie's despair without ever saying a word. It is, in short, a masterful portrayal by an actor who knows his craft.

The film is narrated by Scrap, the janitor, trainer and all-around handyman at the gym. And Scrap, portrayed by Morgan Freeman, is at the top of his game in this film. He understands Frankie's pain, and may have witnessed the cause of some of it, but the ex-boxer carries his own measure of world-weary sorrow. Scrap, however, is a man at peace. He understands himself, his place in the world and the choices he's made. And while he obviously understands Frankie better than any other person alive, he doesn't offer any clues as to the estrangement Frankie suffers.

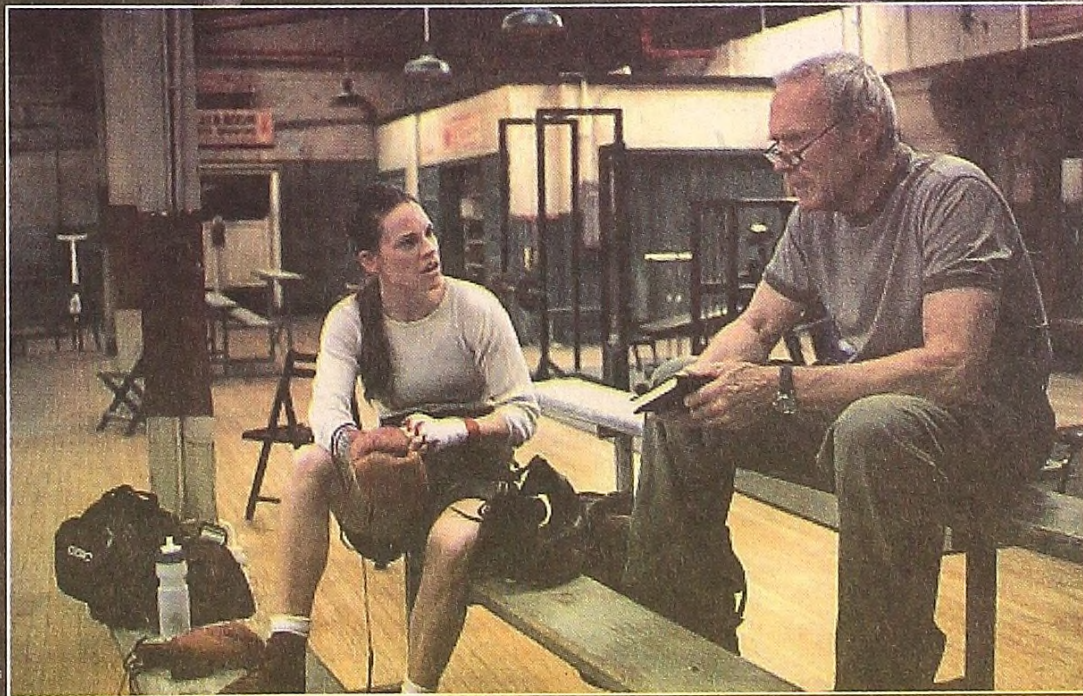
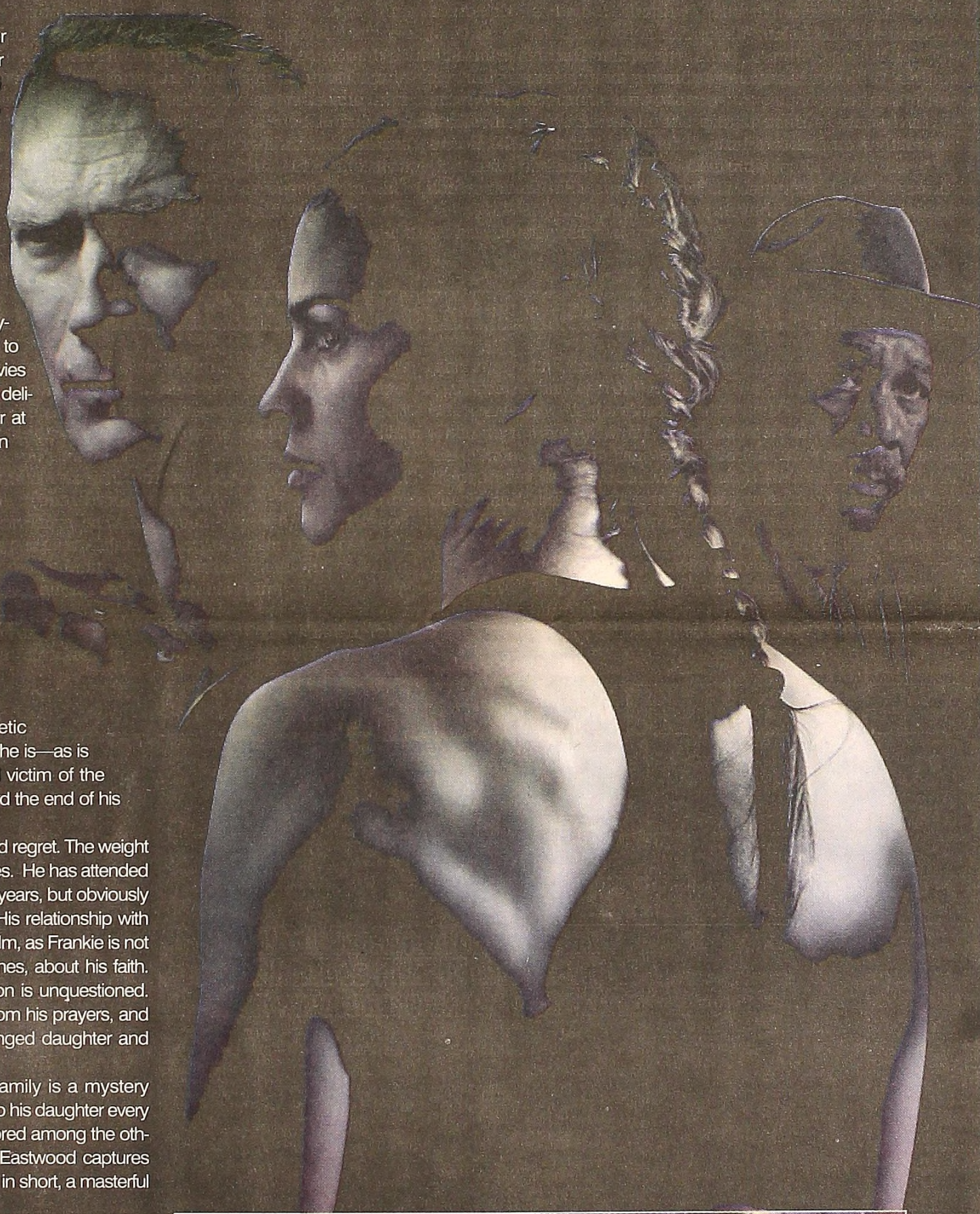
Freeman's rich, mournful voice pours over the narration like warm syrup. He, along with Eastwood and Swank, offers a performance that might be used as a guide for fledgling thespians in acting classes.

And when Eastwood finishes with all the clichés of the underdog who makes it to the top, he delivers a hard right cross to audiences' sensibilities that will leave them reeling.

You haven't seen this before, guaranteed.

Million Dollar Baby delivers a thought-provoking knockout entertainment punch that will be long remembered.

This is a flawless film executed by a master storyteller.



THE SCENE

In Good Company looks at corporate Americans

John Counts
Staff Writer

The title of Paul Weitz's new film, *In Good Company*, seems not only to allude to the company you keep, but the company you work for.

Weitz, who previously brought us two other studies into the hearts

of men young and aging, *American Pie* and *About a Boy*, spins a story about two men sparring on the corporate playing field—in the ad sales department of a magazine called *Sports America*, no less.

The result is a sweet, interesting look into the world of corporate America and the natures of men who still mostly dominate the

field. Weitz, who also scripted the movie, never gets too dark or dreary with his examination of the corporate world. Instead, it is balanced nicely by a sweetness relating to the fact that these people riding elevators in expensive suits are, after all, only human.

The what-ifs of the movie are: 1) What if the veteran leader of the team is suddenly replaced by the rookie? 2) What if the rookie begins dating the veteran's daughter?

While the movie has been advertised to play up the second what-if, the real conflict is between the two men—Dan Foreman, the grizzled, middle-aged vet who has run his ad department with a heart, and Carter Duryea, the 26-year-old chosen to take over Foreman's department when the magazine is gobbled up by a media conglomerate obsessed with 'synergy.'

It isn't luck that Duryea, played by an energetic Topher Grace, has gotten to where he is at on the cor-

porate ladder. He is a workaholic, so much so that his wife of six months leaves him, with shady ethics—his success selling children cell phones gets him the notice he needs to take over Sports America.

Foreman has a nearly picture perfect life. He loves his job, his family—and they both, for the most part, have loved him back until Duryea upends things. He enters his life first as his boss and then as a suitor to his daughter, played by Scarlett Johansson. Talk about invading a man's territory.

In his early 50s, Foreman also learns that he has another baby on the way.

Despite his posturing, Duryea is still young and inexperienced. And even though he is technically in charge, he is never really in charge. Eventually, even he begins to realize this.

The only area where the movie fizzles is the affair between Duryea and Foreman's daughter. It

could have become more than a device to illustrate the conflicted relationship between Duryea and Foreman. The ending, too, is a bit tacked on and unbelievable—though earnest.

Regardless, the movie is sure to entertain, and may make you think, even if it's about not going to work the next day.



Dan Foreman (Dennis Quaid, standing) discovers his boss, Carter Duryea (Topher Grace), lunching with his daughter, Alex (Scarlett Johansson)

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SPORTS

Undefeated Tigers overcome Braves

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

“
*We played good
in the first
half on offense and
defense.*

**Belleville Coach
Mike Krogel**

The line to the Belleville High School gymnasium extended out into the cold for the sold-out basketball game Friday night between the Tigers and their rivals, Ypsilanti.

Some spectators were turned away at the door, but those who managed to squeak in and pry themselves into the few remaining inches of bleacher space got their money's worth.

Belleville overcame Ypsilanti, 66-51, in what could have been their best hardwood contest so far this season.

Ypsilanti's zone defense limited Belleville to only nine points in the first quarter and 14 in the second to give them a 26-23 lead at the half. Ypsilanti took the lead in the second with the help of a buzzer-beating three-pointer off the fingertips of senior guard Josh Young.

"We played good in the first half on offense and defense," said Belleville Coach Mike Krogel. "In the second, we made them take shots they couldn't make. We did a better job on the boards in the second half, too."

But it was two Tigers that carried Belleville on their backs to the victory in the second half.

The one-two punch of junior forward Leon Freeman and senior forward Tommie Clark took the game from a close call to an all-out routing. The two players combined for 40 points – 28 of them came in the second half.

"First half they were giving me elbows; I almost got my teeth knocked out," Freeman said about the slow first half. "In the second, we came out strong and took over the game on offense and defense."

First to step up to the plate was Freeman, who nailed 15 of his 22 points in the third frame. He kept the Tigers in it, 27-28, with the team's first four points of the second half but it was Clark's trey that put the Tigers on top, 30-28.

Young answered with a three to regain the lead, but from there

Freeman hit back-to-back threes to take a 36-31 lead. And that was the turning point of the game where the momentum jumped off the Ypsilanti bandwagon and into the front pockets of Freeman and Clark.

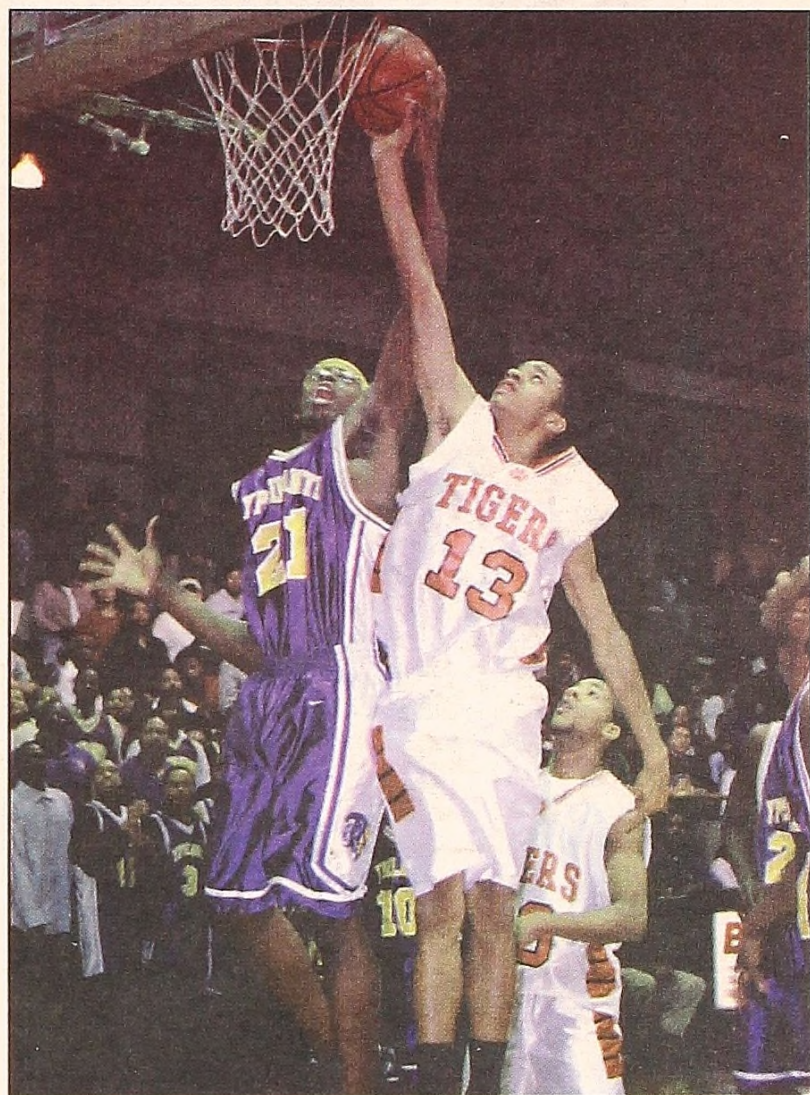
Freeman went on to hit five more, including another three to close out the third period, 46-40, for Belleville.

Clark carried the momentum into the final frame of play where he scored 13 of his 18 points. First, Ypsi inched back with three quarter-opening free throws, but senior guard Isaac Kindell nixed them when he nailed a triple to give Belleville a 49-43 lead.

Clark hit for Belleville's next eight, which made it a 10-point game, 57-47, and then hit another five consecutive points before the two-minute-left marker hit.

Freeman nailed the final Belleville basket for the 66-51 victory. He also had nine rebounds and blocked four shots in the game. Clark grabbed eight boards and blocked two.

Clark and Freeman can't take all of the credit, though. Junior guard Carlos Clark came up huge in the third session, as well, with a beautiful put-back and a three-pointer consecutively, which extended the Tiger's lead to 41-



Belleville's Mike Donaldson (13) goes up for a rebound against Ypsilanti's Manning Richardson (21) at the sold out rivalry game Friday night. Belleville won 66-51 and remained undefeated.

33. He finished with eight points.

"We didn't expect that from him," Krogel said. "He was the unsung hero of the game."

Kindell also stepped up and

knocked down eight and nabbed five rebounds. He also was solid on defense against Ypsilanti's

See Tigers, page 15

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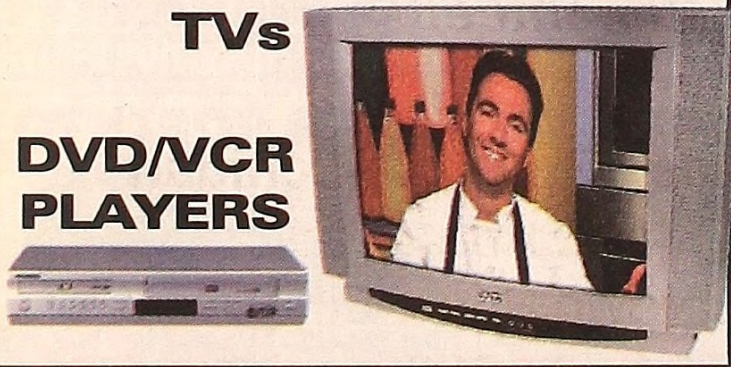
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Canton hoopsters top Franklin, fall to Central

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Canton got back on track last Friday night when they overcame the Franklin Patriots, 63-56.

The victory ended a three-game skid for the Chiefs.

"The win was nice for us," said Canton Coach Charlie Paye. "We shot the ball better than we have been, but Franklin is a good team. They keep coming after you and never quit."

Canton had both the inside and outside shooting game going for them. They scored 23 points from the post - Kevin Thornton hit for 12 of them - and they were 7 of 12 from three-point range, according to Paye. They also hit 18 of 21 from

the line, he said.

Canton was up 11-9 after one frame of play, but Franklin caught up with a 15-13 second period. The score was knotted at 24 for the halftime break.

Franklin struggled at the opening of the third where they missed shots and turned the ball over. The Chiefs took advantage and went on an 11-2 run, according to Paye. Canton outscored the Patriots, 24-16, in the period, which made it 48-40 before the final eight minutes.

After that, Franklin kept closing in on the Chiefs, but Canton managed to hang on in the fourth quarter for the win.

Andy Cortellini and David Calille led the offensive efforts for Canton with 13 apiece and each nailed three three-pointers. Jason Houdek added nine.

Paye said the offense is finally working as planned.

"Cortellini, Calille and Houdek were making shots from outside and Thornton and (Julian) Smith scored inside," he said. "That's how I envisioned it all season."

The Chiefs still had problems with turnovers (21), according to Paye, but the solid scoring helped overcome that, he said.

Andre Bell led the Patriots with 26 points.

The game, originally scheduled as a home contest at Canton High School, was switched to Salem because of a bleacher problem, Paye said. The switch might have been an advantage for the Chiefs.

"For some reason the kids like playing at Salem," Paye said. "They always shoot better"

Canton 41, Central 44

The Chiefs had a problem scoring in their Tuesday match-up at Walled Lake Central last week.

They were sluggish on offense with only 11 points scored in the first half.

"We didn't shoot the ball well and struggled to score," Paye said. "It wasn't anything that Central did - it's just one of those things like a top baseball team going into a hitting slump."

Central led 19-11 at halftime.

Canton made up some ground in the third quarter with a solid 16 points. Smith led the efforts - he scored 11 of his 12 points in that frame. But after three, Canton still trailed by five points, 27-32.

The Chiefs picked things up

in the fourth, too. Cortellini, Andy Larson and Houdek all hit triples, which helped Canton take a two-point lead with about 2:30 left in the game, according to Paye.

But then the bad-shot bug bit the Chiefs again. They missed some easy shots, which allowed Central to overtake the lead and win the game, Paye said.

"Central has some good athletes," he said. "We didn't rebound offensively in the first half. We took some bad shots and Central was able to get the rebounds; we didn't get many second chances."

Thornton scored 13 and Calille, eight, for Canton. Brad Guldán had 14 for Central.

Canton will host the Wayne Memorial Zebras at 7 p.m. tomorrow.

Viking basketball conquers University Prep, 66-28

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Inkster's match-up against University Prep last Saturday wasn't quite the contest that Coach Gerald Paschal had hoped.

Inkster triumphed by a landslide, 66-28.

"They weren't as good as I thought they were," he said. "I did get to play a lot of young guys, which is good. It was a nice little

tune-up before this week."

Inkster shot to a 21-2 lead after just one quarter and extended the lead to 32-9 by the end of the first half.

University had their best eight minutes when they scored 13 in the third. But Inkster still outscored them by one point for a 46-22 lead. The Vikings limited Prep to only six points in the final session and scored 20 for the lopsided victory.

Sophomore forward Johnny

Crawford scored seven of his team-high 11 in the first frame. He also brought down seven rebounds for the Vikings. Freshman forward Alphonso Lewis hit for 10 points and nabbed five rebounds, while junior guard Felix Kizer added nine points, including two triples.

"We came out with a lot of energy and jumped up on them early," Paschal said. "They stayed to within 20 points most of the way until the fourth quarter,

where we put it away."

Prep was Inkster's only competition last week. The Vikings will have to be sharp when they travel for both of their games this week. They faced off against Highland Park Tuesday night but results were unavailable at press time. Tomorrow night, they will take on the red-hot Robichaud Bulldogs.

The dynamics of the Viking team changed this week with the eligibility of three players who

will try to make a 'sizable' contribution to the team.

Senior Jairocey Simpson, a 6-foot-8 forward; 6-4 junior forward Antwain Goree; and junior forward Maurice Brown at 6-3 will add some much needed height to the Viking lineup.

"I feel that we've been getting beat on the boards, especially against Truman," Paschal said. "I think it showed how small we were. Now, the whole team changes."

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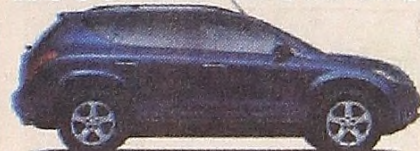
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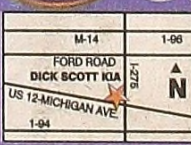
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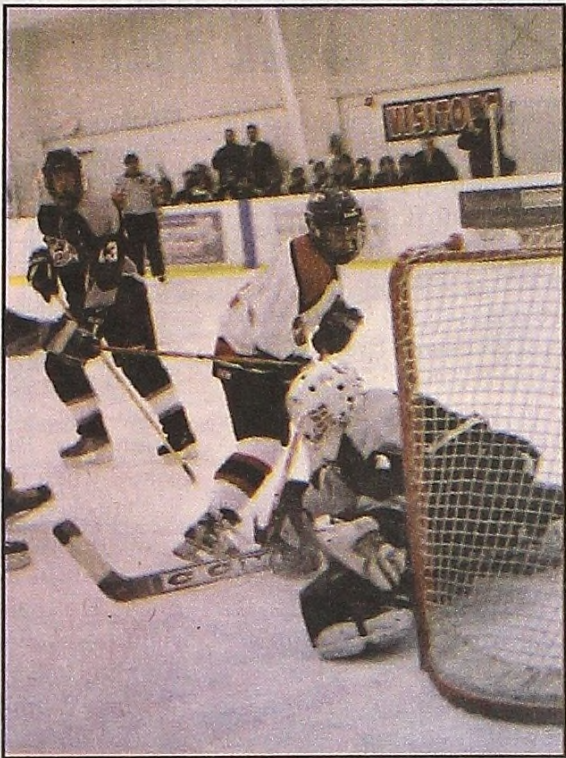
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Canton tops Plymouth, 5-2 Grand Rapids, 9-1

Canton hockey had another impressive week with two victories against Plymouth High School and Grand Rapids South Christian High School. Last Wednesday the Chiefs hosted rivals Plymouth and skated away with a 5-2 victory. Bryan Wioncek scored twice Pat Gallagher, Reece McCabe and Kevin Tollison each added one in the victory. Tony Hylko earned the win in net. Billy Gauthier and Nick Rasuchacki scored for Plymouth.

On Saturday, Canton had six different scorers that led them to a 9-1 victory against Grand Rapids. Mike Kondratick scored a hat trick, Brad Barath added two and Gallagher, Rago, Tollison and Brett Giacchino all scored one goal each. Jon Bonham started the first two periods in net and Kevan Swanberg filled in the third. Next up, the Chiefs will host Bloomfield Hills Combined at 8:00 p.m. tomorrow.



Romulus Eagles soar past Rouge

The Romulus Eagles are flying high after two convincing wins last week.

It was the University of Michigan-bound Jerret Smith that led Romulus with 22 points in the team's 73-52 win against River Rouge on Friday. He was 7 of 11 from the field with five rebounds and four assists.

The first quarter was close, but Romulus edged to a 22-19 lead. They pulled further ahead when they outscored Rouge 21-7 in the second for a 43-26 advantage.

The third proved to be a struggle for the Eagles, though. They had 10 turnovers and only scored six points in the frame of play. The weary third allowed River Rouge a comeback of sorts as they cut the deficit to 10 points at the beginning of the fourth.

Romulus woke up in the final quarter and scored 24 to Rouge's 13 for the win.

Three other Eagles landed in double digits on the night. Dante Williams hit for 13, Geryn Reese, 11, and Avery Stephenson, 10 – including a slam dunk in second half that sparked the team, according to Romulus Coach Nate Oats. Reese also nabbed eight rebounds while Devin Sercy grabbed 11.

Romulus was solid from the line where they were 21-for-25 – an area that they struggled in last year. They were perfect in free throws until the fourth where they missed all four, Oats said.

Walter Tillman scored 14 for River Rouge (1-9).

The Eagles put together a solid four-quarter performance against Highland Park on their home court for a 77-52 triumph last Tuesday.

Romulus was off and running with a 20-8 first quarter and made it 38-22 after two. They knocked down another 27 in the third and took a 31-point lead at the end of three. Oats pulled the starters and let the third stringers play the entire fourth. They were outscored, 18-12, but it was too little, too late for Highland Park.

Jason Gibson and Stephenson each scored 15 in the lopsided victory. Dwight Talley added 12. Smith only scored six in this outing but had a solid game with six assists and five rebounds – exactly what Oats wanted.

"He played really well," he said. "We asked him to push the ball more and he did. He did everything that we asked of him."

Freshman Dominique Buckley added six assists in the test.

Romulus heads to Ypsilanti on Friday.

Canton gymnasts place 3rd at Holland

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chief tumblers faced off against 16 tough teams at the Holland Invitational on Saturday and finished third with a 136.1.

Mina Pirzadeh placed sixth in the all-around rankings (33.975). She managed that with a second-place Division II beam routine (8.8) and third on bars (8.575).

In Division I, Alyssa Kelley took first on the vault (9.4) while Jessie Murray placed second on the beam (8.65). Kaitlyn Burns

placed 10th on vault (8.4), beam (8.35) and floor (8.8).

Earlier in the week, Canton defeated neighboring Salem, 140.5-133.8.

In the all-around Kelley took home the gold for Canton with an overall score of 36.75. Murray took second (34.75). For Salem, Sarah Bugosh placed third (34.65).

In the vault competition, Canton took the top two spots – Kelley first (9.5) and Murray second (9.1). Bugosh placed third (8.8) for Salem.

Kelley took first again on bars (9.35). Bugosh and Aquinto tied for second (8.7) for Salem.

Aquinto took the top spot in the beam competition (8.95). Canton's Kara Ahern finished in second (8.9) and Murray third (8.75).

Canton took the top three places in the floor routine. Kelley was the top competitor with a 9.3. Ahern scored a 9.10 for second and Burns was third (8.9). The closest Salem competitor was Bugosh, who placed fifth (8.60).

Canton will head to the Farmington Invitational on Saturday.

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Whalers weather Storm but fall to Owen Sound

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers lost two of three games last week, but they kept their hold on first place in the OHL West division.

Owen Sound's Bobby Ryan shot down the Whalers Friday night with his game-winning 26th goal of the season. The goal put the game away, 3-2, for the Attack.

Mike Brown's goaltending for Owen Sound was the difference maker in the game. He stopped 31 of Plymouth's 33 shots. He is 11-1 since he was acquired last month from Saginaw.

Stefan Ruzica opened the scoring for Owen Sound. He stuffed home a rebound at about the 7:26 mark of the first period for his team-leading 27th of the season.

Ryan extended the lead to 2-0 when he beat Plymouth goalie Justin Garay to the five-hole at about 6:07 in the second.

Plymouth got on track in the

third period when James Neal knocked in a power-play goal at about 3:12. Steve Ward took the initial shot, but Brown knocked it away, which allowed Neal to capitalize on the rebound.

But Ryan made it a 3-1 game 32 seconds later.

Garay was pulled in the final minute to gain an extra attacker. It paid off when Neal cut into the Attacks lead, 3-2, with his second score of the night at 19:39.

Plymouth continued to pressure Brown in the final 21 seconds but they couldn't find the back of the net for the tie.

Whalers remained at the top of the West division with a 19-17-4-3 record while the Attack improved to 30-7-3-2 for second place overall in the OHL.

Whalers 7, Storm 4

It was a different outcome Saturday night when Dan Collins scored a power-play goal at about 2:41 of the third period to break a 4-4 tie. The tally proved to be the

game-winner and it propelled the Whalers to a 7-4 victory.

Plymouth was up 3-0 on the Storm in the first period with two goals from Vaclav Meidl and one from Corey Tanaka. The Storm narrowed the gap with a short-handed goal from Ryan Callahan but Ryan Stephenson made it a 4-1 game with just more than a minute left in the first. That was enough time for the Attack's Andy Hyvarinen to add another goal and make it 4-2 at the 19:50 mark.

Guelph knotted the score, 4-4, with two unanswered goals in the second from Kelsey Wilson and Lubomir Stach.

The Whalers answered in the third with three goals. Collins batted in the winner from Ryan McGinnis. Meidl and Jonas Fiedler scored back-to-back to put the game away, 7-4.

Spitfires 5, Whalers 2

The Windsor Spitfires overcame a 2-0 first-period deficit last Thursday night and defeated the

Whalers, 5-2.

Plymouth took the early 2-0 lead but it was Windsor's Steve Downie that scored on a power play in the third period to wrap up the game.

The Whalers appeared to have scored about 1:56 into the first period on a scramble in front of Windsor goaltender Kyle Knechtler. But the score was waved when it was ruled the net was knocked off its moorings.

John Mitchell made good on his attempt at about the 5:24 mark. He took a shot from the right point that deflected off of Knechtel and in to the net.

Then it appeared that Meidl scored about 58 seconds later, when his shot ricocheted off of a defenseman. The referees ruled that the whistle was blown before the puck went in.

Vigilante scored a short-handed goal at about the 13:07 mark of the period for a 2-0 Plymouth lead. Mitchell earned the assist on

this one when he intercepted the puck, skated trough neutral ice and took a shot. Vigilante was there to stuff in the rebound.

But that was it for the Plymouth Whalers.

Windsor came back in the second period with two unanswered goals. Cal O'Reilly tipped in a shot by John Scott Dickson for the Spitfires' first goal. Then, Dickson scored the equalizer at about the 14:57 marker of the period.

Downie knocked the winner by Plymouth goaltender Ryan Nie at 7:07 in the third.

Paul McFarland scored his first goal as a Spitfire on a power play with about 3:15 left in the game. And Mike Weber banged in an empty-netter with less than a minute remaining to put the game away.

The Whalers are back in action at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow when they host the Barrie Colts and the Sarnia Sting at 7:30 on Saturday at the Compuware Sports Arena.

Plymouth hoops undefeated in league

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

For a young team with very little varsity experience, the Plymouth High School basketball team continues to show that experience may be vastly overrated.

The Wildcats defeated Western Lakes Activities Association foes John Glenn and Walled Lake Northern last week to boost their record to a solid 7-2, 3-0 WLAA.

The Jan. 11 tilt with Glenn was a tough contest, with Plymouth scratching out a 43-42 win.

The Wildcats were down 22-17 at the half, but they turned up the defense in the third quarter, outscoring the Rockets 17-6 to take a six-point edge into the final stanza.

Glenn took a slim one-point lead behind Senior forward Barry Eberhardt, who finished the night with 17 points. Plymouth was able to build a six-point lead following a three-point play by junior forward A.J. Davey. The game remained tight until the final gun, as Eberhardt sunk two of three free throws with 22 seconds left.

Wildcats junior forward Josh DeLuc, who finished with 10 points and eight boards, then missed two from the stripe with Plymouth clinging to a one-point lead. A mad scramble for the ball ended with the pill in the hands of DeLuc, enabling the Wildcats to secure the victory.

"We changed our defense up after the first half," said Plymouth head coach Tom Van Wagoner. "We took the lead and the momentum and that allowed us to get the win."

Junior guard Jim Wilbur chipped in with 11 points. The 6'1" guard also played solid defense on the 6'6" Eberhardt. Junior guard D.J. Coleman and Davey had seven and six points, respectively.

Last Friday's matchup with Walled Lake Northern was one for the fan who loves the whistle, as the teams combined to shoot 68 free throws.

The Wildcats shot 21 of 37, while Walled Lake (1-8, 0-3) shot 13 for 31. The teams also combined for 44 fouls.

Van Wagoner could only utter one word when he talked about

the foul situation.

"Wow," said Van Wagoner, with much emphasis.

Both DeLuc and Davey took early exits in the contest, but they contributed seven and four points, respectively before taking a seat on the bench.

The game was close throughout, as Plymouth took a six-point edge into the fourth quarter before winning, 50-45.

"We have to give Walled Lake some credit," Van Wagoner said. "Every time we would separate to a 10-point lead, they'd make some plays to get back in it."

Coleman paced the Wildcats with 14 points, but Van Wagoner said the guard did much more than score the ball.

"D.J. made a number of plays that were big," he said. "He played defense well and had some huge rebounds and some big steals."

Wilbur wasn't far behind, as he netted 11 points. Junior guard Brent Jones put in seven points.

Plymouth's next contest is a road tussle with Walled Lake Western. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m. tomorrow night.

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Coach Shumacher back in action, goes 2-0 for week

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Northville basketball coach Darrel Schumacher was back in action last week after recovering from shoulder surgery.

It was a good thing, too. He missed the previous week and the team went 0-2 in that span. But on his return, the Mustangs mustered up two wins against Walled Lake Northern and Stevenson.

In his first contest back, he and his team of 'Stangs took on Walled Lake Northern on the road. There, they overcame Northern's third-period charge for a 57-47 victory.

"I feel you have to right the ship in order to get going in the right direction," he said.

Northville was on the right track when they outscored Northern 16-10 in the first frame. But after that Northern crept back into contention.

Walled Lake had a strong second quarter where they cut into Northville's lead, 25-21, before the half ended. They continued their stalwart play and knotted up the game at 36 in the third.

When a game gets too close a team and its coach usually look to the seniors and captains to step up and carry them

through.

That's what Ryan Hillock did. Starting in the third period, the 6-foot senior co-captain picked up his play, especially on defense, and caused pressure and turnovers in order for the Mustangs to rally to 21 points in the fourth quarter, according to Schumacher.

"I think he got a little flustered because we weren't playing the way we should have been," he said of Hillock. "In the third he applied pressure on his own and the whole team picked up.

"I think it was great leadership on his part. It was a young man not wanting to lose."

It worked as Northville outscored Northern, 21-12, in the final session of play and won the game 57-47.

Northville had four players in double digits.

Senior and co-captain Alan Shanoski led the team with 16 points while junior Chris Lorente added 13. Alvin Storrs hit for 11 and senior J.D. Gerblich 10.

Senior forward Joel Darin led the winless Northern team with 17.

Northville had another close game against Stevenson on Friday night. It was close the whole way but Northville managed to keep the lead throughout and

”

Stevenson's a team that won't give up.
At any given time we would have a lead,
as much as 10, they would whittle it down.

Darrel Schumacher

earned a 62-60 victory.

"Stevenson's a team that won't give up," Schumacher said. "At any given time we would have a lead, as much as 10, they would whittle it down."

It was a six-point lead at the end of the first half, 30-24, for Northville. But Northern narrowed it to 47-43 in the third and came closer yet in the fourth, but the 'Stangs held on for the 62-60 victory.

It was an evenly contributed offense, said Schumacher.

Gerblick led with 13. Storrs followed with 11 and Lorente with 10. Hillock added 9 with Shanoski and Mike Jameson each with eight.

Tom Clements had 19 for Stevenson.

The 5-4 Mustangs are on the road tomorrow night against Livonia Franklin (6-2).

Tigers

FROM PAGE 11

Young, Krogel said. Senior point guard Anne Partee didn't score but offered his assistance on nine plays and stole the ball once.

"Those two (Freeman and Tommie

Clark) will get their share of points," Krogel said. "We rely on them to get points but it's nice to know other guys are stepping up and knocking down points."

Belleville was 13-34 from two-point range and 12 of 23 from three-point land.

The 8-0 Tigers hosted Detroit Mumford last night, but the results were unavailable at press time. They travel to Willow Run tomorrow night.

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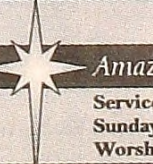
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04-13079

1993 CHEVROLET
2G1WL54TXP9145820
4 DOOR 04-13080

AUTO AUCTION
Howard's Towing &
Collision
35830 Van Born Rd.
Wayne, MI 48184
734-326-1114

January 25, 2005
1:00 P.M.
All Vehicles Sold "As Is"
Cash Only

1977 Chevrolet
1L69U7J256102
1997 Dodge
1B3ES47Y9VD273877
1977 Chevrolet
1X69D7W109998
1988 Ford
1FTCR14T6JPB01212
1998 Chevrolet
1GCCS1949W8206432
1994 Pontiac
1G2NW15M9RC798181
1982 Chevrolet
1G1AD69G9C7225064
1983 Chevrolet
1G1AW3596DR240465
1987 Cadillac
1G6CD5182H4213882
1995 Ford
KNJLT06H3S6123001
1991 Ford
1FAPP14J5MW376804
1990 Ford
1FACP41A8LF197241
1990 Dodge
2B7HB21Y4LK729506
1989 Ford
1FABP5341KG183506
1996 Chevrolet
1G1JF5244T7192494
1994 Ford
1FARP11J3RW279721
1992 Ford
1FMDA11UXNZB10610
1988 Volkswagen
WVWFB9160JW622429
1993 Buick
1G4BT5371PR404920

FORFEITURE VEHICLE
1994 Pontiac
2G2FS22S7R2226230

CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC
AUCTION

On January 25, 2005 the
Westland Police
Department will conduct
public auctions of
impounded, abandoned
vehicles. The first auction
will begin promptly at
10:00 A.M. at Westland
Service Towing, 37501
Cherry Hill, Westland, MI,
County of Wayne, where
the following vehicles will
be offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1991 Chevy Cavalier
2-Door Red
1G1JC14G7M7106668
1991 Ford Escort
2-Door Silver
1FAPP11JXMW323925
1992 Chevy Corsica
4-Door Red
1G1LT53T1NY137909
1994 Mercury Sable

4-Door White
1MELM5047RA618200

The second auction will
begin promptly at 11:00
A.M. at Westland Car Care,
6375 Hix Road, Westland,
MI, County of Wayne,
where the following vehi-
cles will be offered for sale
to the highest bidder:

1994 Ford Escort
4-Door Black
VIN N/A
Trailer - Silver
VIN N/A
Moped - Purple
JH2AF1718JK005368
1985 Ford Ranger
Pick-up Truck Black
1FTCR11S9FUC59208
1997 Ford Escort
4-Door Red
1FALP13P2VW348061
1993 VW Fox
4-Door Gray
9BWGA2302PP015500
1991 Mercury Topaz
4-Door Red
1MEPM36X5MK630937
1995 Dodge Ram
Pick-up Truck Red
1B7HC16Y9SS247375

All vehicles sold in "as is"
condition. Bidding on all
vehicles will start at the
amount due for towing and
storage. Vehicles may be
deleted from this list at any
time prior to the start of the
auction.

On January 29, 2005, the
Van Buren Township Police
Department will conduct a
public auction of impound-
ed and abandoned vehi-
cles. The auction will begin
at 10:00am, at J&T Towing
and Storage, 237 Industrial
Dr. Belleville MI, County of
Wayne, where the follow-
ing will be offered for sale
to the highest bidder.

1973 CHEVROLET 2D
1S87K3N184660
44-1154-04
1988 FORD 2D
1FABP42E9JF141593
44-1326-04
1991 MERCURY 4D
2MECM75F5MX670205
44-1327-04
1986 TOYOTA PU
JT4RN63R8G5000105

44-1339-04
1990 TOYOTA 4D
4T1SV22E4LU120696
44-1344-04
1990 PLYMOUTH 2D
4P3CS44R8LE098515
44-1348-04
1994 FORD VN
1FDEE14N0RHA71454
44-1396-04
1985 FORD PU
1FTCR11S4FUA52063
44-03-05

Upon completion, the auc-
tion will move to Great
Lakes Towing and storage,
42350 Van Born Rd.
Belleville MI, County of
Wayne, where the follow-
ing vehicles will be offered
for sale to the highest bid-
der.

1992 DODGE 2D
1B3XP24D7NN232772
44-1312-04
1989 OLDSMOBILE 4D
1G3HN54C3KW341060
44-1328-04
1997 FORD 2D
KNJLT05H2V6223547
44-1332-04
1990 FORD 2D
1ZVPT20C6L5213311
44-1349-04
1990 LINCOLN 4D
1LNLM82F4LY605142
44-1353-04
1996 DODGE 2D
1B3ES22C0TD601524
44-1373-04
1992 FORD PU
1FTCR10A0NTA64160
44-1384-04
1993 FORD SW
1FMDA31U4PZB89559
44-1386-04
1997 FORD SW
3FALP15P3VR122109
44-1391-04
1993 PONTIAC 4D
1G2NW54N1PC723652
44-01-05

Due to unknown owner-
ship, 30 day notice is
given that on March 12,
2005 the vehicle listed
below will be offered for
sale at auction.

1997 MERCURY 4D
1MELM5047VA616408
44-1266-04

All vehicles are sold in "as
is condition". Bidding on
all vehicles will start at the

89. Apartments for Rent



Belmont Manor
apartments

ONE MONTH FREE RENT!
Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment

ONLY \$560*

Spacious 2 Bedroom Apartment
ONLY \$660*

• Extensive Storage • Fitness Center
• Minutes from Eastern MI University,
Metro Airport & University of MI

3 Blks. South of Belleville Rd.
(Main St.) On Huron River Drive

For Details Call
(734) 699-2042

PRINCETON COURT
APARTMENTS

WOW

NO RENT UNTIL MARCH!

1 Bedroom apartments \$599/month. Condo
Style Living without the Fees! Washer/Dryer in
Apt. Tons of Storage. Dogs Welcome!

Princeton Court Apartments
Plymouth, Michigan
734-459-6640
(*with approved credit)

amount due for towing and
storage. Vehicles may be
deleted from this list at any
time prior to the start of the
auction.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Van Buren Township Clerk
Published: January 20,
2005

60. Misc. Sales

For Sale
Used School Equipment:
Assorted welding
machines and culinary
arts equipment/china
products. Contact
R. Hamrick at William D.
Ford Career-Tech
Ctr, 734.419.2102
All items sold "as is"-no
warranties
or guarantees.

61. Misc. Items

For Sale: Frigidaire refrig-
erator side-by-side, stain-
less steel, filtered water in
door, 8 months old. \$500
Pull-out couch from
Jennifer Convertibles.
Neutral color.
\$300
Ask for email picture of
items.
Contact:
248-259-5833

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres
Motel, low daily and
weekly rates.
Refrigerator, microwave,
HBO. Call 734-721-1220,
Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100.
Fairlane in Novi 248-347-
9999

CANTON
**Award Winning
Super 8 Motel!**
Weekly Rates 199.99
and/up. All new rooms,
free local phone calls
Free deluxe continental
breakfast, microfridge
available, 70 station
cable w/HBO, all interior
corridors,
with elevators
"Ask about our Jacuzzi
rooms"
3933 Lotz Rd.
(off Michigan Ave)
I-275 Exit 22
734-722-8880

CANTON DAYS INN
Five Sunburst Rating!
Low Daily, Weekly, and
Monthly rates.
Free deluxe breakfast
Guest Laundry
Microfridge in all rooms
All local calls free
40500 Michigan Ave
Exit 22 off I-275
734-721-5200

89. Apartments for Rent

Holiday Savings
Wayne Forest Apartments

We have up to two months FREE rent.



- FREE Heat • FREE Water
- Large individual Storage area
- Laundry Facilities In Each Building
- Large Walk-In Closet
- 24 Hour Maintenance
- Carport Parking
- Centrally located to the Airport, Highways & Shopping

33095 Forest, Wayne, MI

734 326-7800

South of Michigan Ave.. Just off of Vanoy

Funeral
DIRECTORY

DAVID C. BROWN

FUNERAL HOME

460 E. HURON RIVER DRIVE

David C. Brown, Manager

Belleville

734-697-4500

Crane

FUNERAL HOME

36885 GODDARD
ROMULUS
734-941-9200
WILLIAM A. CRANE



Harry J. Will

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(734) 721-5600

Tom Lynch • Manager
Jim Henley • Director

Also in Livonia
& Redford

UHT FUNERAL HOME

Harold Rediske Jr., Director

Harold Rediske II, Robert J. Gilbert,
35400 Glenwood Road
Westland, MI 48186 • (734) 721-8555
www.uhtfuneralhome.com



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JAMES H. PENN & SON

313-278-6300

3015 S. Inkster Rd.
Inkster, MI 48141

Newburgh Colonial
Apartments

734-721-6699

1st Month Rent FREE
\$485 Monthly • With Approved Credit

• Spacious 1 bedroom

• On site laundry

• Cable ready

• 5 minutes from Ford plant

2400 S. Newburgh Rd., Westland

Special Assistance Needed - Room for rent in Inkster. I am looking for a daily live-in assistant to help with my wife. Prefer Female over 50 years of age. Will make arrangements of payment for the right individual. Call 734-408-6138 for more information.

88. Duplexes For Rent

Norwayne 1, 2, and 3 Bedrooms Available, completely remodeled. \$425-\$700 First months rent free Security deposit required Call 734-817-8700

Norwayne-Duplex for Rent-2028 Elsworth/Wildwood & Palmer Area.\$535MO,Total \$1,000.Moves you in. (734) 522-1512

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE Call for list of available 2 & 3 BR duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management. Norplex Associates 734-722-6444 EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

1 Bed \$550 Security \$750 No pets. 734-482-5076 or 734 834-2877

Nice one Bedroom apartment, rural setting, 1/2 mile West of I-275 on Michigan Avenue in Canton. Call: 734-721-8047

Several 2 & 3 Bedrooms for rent in the Westland area. Please call: 734-449-0966

Wayne, MI - Quiet 1 Bedroom, Well maintained, heat, water, A/C included, no pets, \$495, call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or owner @ 734-878-0859

92. Business Places For Rent

BUILDING FOR rent, approximately, 1400 sq. ft., office, bathroom and garage area with 14 foot garage door.734-941-1643, \$850 per month.

96. Houses For Rent

House for Rent: Within walking dist. of Downtown Plymouth. 2-Bedroom., wood floors, large master bedroom. w/fireplace, newly decorated, 1-car gar., screened in porch, full base. All appliances. inc. No Pets! \$1350.00 Must see! Call 586-850-0950 for appt.

Inkster - Like new 3 Bedroom home with garage. No pets. Deposit and credit check required. \$700 / month North of Michigan Avenue / East of Middlebelt Call: 734-721-7378

Inkster - Shiny clean 3 bedroom home with basement. No pets. Deposit and credit check required. \$700 / month. South of Avondale and West of Inkster Road. Call: 734-721-7378

INKSTER 3 Bedroom brick ranch Newly Decorated New Carpet \$700/month Call 734-326-1392

INKSTER Garage, fenced for pets \$575 INKSTER 3 Bedroom, basement, option 2 buy \$600 26 available from \$550-\$750 RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

INKSTER Possible 4 Bedroom Bungalow, 2 down, 2 up. Section 8 Welcomed \$900 / month + Security. Please call: 734-266-8220 or 734-765-4455

INKSTER, 4041 Williams, 3 Bedroom, basement, garage. \$775/mo., \$500 security. Call 313-565-7832.

Plymouth Small home ideal for one with quiet country setting. \$600 / month 734-459-5114

ROMULUS Remodeled, air, garage, pets negotiable. \$750 ROMULUS 3 Bedroom ranch, appliances available now \$600 RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

Several 2 & 3 Bedroom Houses for rent in the Westland area. Please call: 734-449-0966

WAYNE Garage, appliances, fenced, option 2 buy \$775 BELLEVILLE 3 Bedroom, garage, appliances, water paid \$700 All Cities Available RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

WAYNE Rent with option to buy at 4345 Woodward 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath - \$900/month Call 313-719-4412

WESTLAND 3 Bedroom bungalow, fenced yard \$725 WESTLAND 2 Bedroom, appliances, fenced, water pd \$600 16 available from \$575-\$850 RENTAL PROFESSIONALS 734-513-RENT

113. Wanted Real Estate

A Great Solution! I buy houses or take over payments, any condition. Call Ann @ 734-968-5092

115. Autos For Sale

1996 Chevrolet Cavalier 2 Door, very good condition \$1500 248-943-2873

Looking to buy? Need to sell? Place your ad in the Journal classifieds. Call 734-467-1900

87. Rooms for Rent



Super 8 Motel

CANTON

Super 8 Motel

3933 Lotz Rd (off Michigan Ave.)

(734)722-8880

AWARD WINNING

Super 8 Motel

WEEKLY RATES

\$199.99

& UP



I-275 exit 22

- All new rooms • Free deluxe continental breakfast
- Biscuits, gravy & belgian waffles added
- Free local phone calls • 70 station cable w/ HBO
- All interior corridors, with elevators • Micro fridge available
- " Ask about our jacuzzi rooms"

117. Trucks & Vans

1998 Ford Windstar GL - Power Everything, AM/FM Cassette, New Tires, Runs Great! \$3,300.00 Or best Offer Call: 734-620-2377 for information

1987 F-150 Ford P/U Straight 6 Great work truck / scrap truck Asking: \$550.00 Call: 313-515-3763 or 313-842-6520

BOLD PRINT ATTRACTS MORE READERS! CALL 734-467-1900 to place your ad.

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

106. Houses for Sale

REAL ESTATE AUCTION 60 foreclosed homes in the Detroit area, valued from \$5K-\$170K will sell on Saturday, Jan 22nd, 2005 at 1pm, from the Holiday Inn 17123 Laurel Park in Livonia.

FEATURED IN WESTLAND... 30767 Bennington St, Westland, 3br/1ba, 907sf. For local info call Jim Hess, Dana Realty, 248-473-4560.

FOR TERMS, PHOTOS AND MORE hudsonandmarshall.com

FOR A FREE AUCTION BROCHURE WITH TERMS & CONDITIONS, CALL 1-800-441-9401

Broker Participation Invited 10% personal or business check or cash down. 5% buyer's premium on each sale. In Conjunction w/Steven L Reeser, Brkr#6501140790

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

50. Pets and Supplies

Petland "Where Pets Make Life Better"

\$100 OFF All Regular Priced Puppies!

All our puppies come with:

- Exclusive 3-Yr. Warranty
- FREE Comprehensive Vet Exam
- FREE Lifetime Training Assistance
- Micro-Chip For Lifetime ID + Much, Much More!

Financing as low as \$24.12 per month

Akita, Beagle, Bernese Mountain Dog, Bichon, Boston, Boxer, Cairn, Cavalier, Chihuahua, Cocker, Doxie, English Mastiff, Golden, Great Dane, Italian Greyhound, Jack Russell, Labradoodle, Lhasa, Min Pin, Min Schnauzer, Mixes, Pom, Poodle, Rottweiler, Schnoodle, Sheltie, Shepherd, Shih Tzu, Silkie, Wheaton, Yorkie-poo, Yorkies & more!

Petland Belleville (Next to K-Mart) 2087 Rawsonville Rd. Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 482-8993 www.PetlandBelleville.com



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- Learn in an actual nightclub setting
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To place your ad in the Business Spotlight
Call 734-467-1900

\$ CASH FOR HOUSES \$
No Equity, Foreclosure, No Problem Solve your problem FAST!
Call (734) 377-1674
All Calls Will Be Confidential
Quick closings!

Times are a'changin'

It was a fascinating interview of Ringo Starr on *CBS Sunday Morning*, one of my favorite television programs.

Ringo was promoting a new book called *Postcards from the Boys*, and he came across as a man who's been to the top, slammed to the mat and bounced back better than ever. The man's humility was refreshing.

Years ago, Ringo told the boys: "Send me a postcard," and they did, from everywhere in the world. The book comprises cards sent to Ringo by Paul, John and George.

Ringo discovered the postcards in an old trunk, and from the cards came the book with charity getting the proceeds.

Imagine, postcards from Paul McCartney, George Harrison and John Lennon through the mail.

"So great was their fame," the reporter said. "it's remarkable these postcards ever got delivered."

Ringo replied: "Just a postcard, sent through the mail from John Lennon to Ringo. I don't know if it would arrive today."

What's your guess?

I'd like to think the postcards would indeed arrive if sent today, but, sadly, the cynical doubting Thomas in me feels it would not.

Great mates, the Beatles, despite the creative differences and break up of the legends. Like friends do, they fought, they forgave and they stay bonded.

When the interview was over, I felt sad thinking about what we have become, and are becoming as a society. It seems more and more corporate leaders are more intensely focused on more, rather than on the well-being of fellow Americans.

I called American Express about my bill and a guy in Bombay, India answered. "American"—for God's sake—"Express," a company who wants my money, but fires an American to give that job to a guy, albeit, a pleasant fellow, in India,

Cancel my card.

When I called Sprint for an itemized bill and a

woman in the Philippines answers, because she will work for a buck or two and hour.

CEO's. More is NOT better, especially if it's more rope to hang us.

I don't understand why America pours billions of dollars into building China's economy while destroying America. Where is the logic in a country of 400 million people building a country with more than a billion people? Is it so they might one day become so powerful that they rule America? Is the almighty dollar of today more important than our welfare?

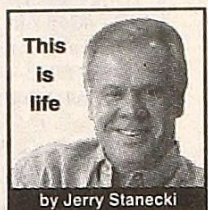
What's happened to the American spirit? To caring about your neighbor?

America is an angry society. America has become the land of disrespect for each other. From road

rage to child murder, to lies that started a despicable war that's killed more than 1,000 young Americans. We are getting what we want, at the cost of less peace of mind, serenity and well-being.

To reduce intense stress, fear and lessening self-esteem problems—which are epidemic in America—we must begin to refocus on wants, verses needs.

Order Jerry's latest book, *Life is a Joke and God Wrote it!* (\$19.50 includes tax, shipping and handling) send check or money order to P.O. Box 121, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 or contact Jerry at www.jerrystanecki.com. To receive a weekly proactive thought from Jerry, send your email address through his web site, where you can also read more of his columns.



by Jerry Stanecki

"Pic of the Week"

Kristin

UPCOMING WEDDING?

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2 & 3
Bedroom
Ranch Condos

- Vaulted Ceilings
- Gas Fireplace
- Dishwasher
- Refrigerator, Stove & Microwave
- Club House w/Pool & Fitness Room
- OPEN Everyday 10am to 5pm

www.classictradition.com

We pay 3% Co-op to All Selling Brokers



1110 Abbey Court
Westland
734-641-7161

New arrival



Isabelle Grace Patterson

Isabelle
Grace Patterson

Christopher and Nicole Patterson of Romulus became the parents of their third child, Isabelle Grace, born at 3:55 a.m. Nov. 17 at the University of Michigan Hospital.

The new arrival weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces at birth and measured 20 and 1/2 inches in length.

The infant joins a brother, Jacob, 4, and a sister, Emma, 3.

DO YOU HAVE CD'S MATURING THIS MONTH?

Are you dissatisfied with your current CD's?

Are you tired of getting lower and lower yields?

Would you like 4.5% tax Deferred Yield?
(Equivalent to receiving 6.25% in a CD)

Would you like to **INCREASE** your monthly income
stream immediately?

Do you want your portfolio designed so you **NEVER** run out of money?

SAFETY IS OUR CONCERN.
CALL THE INCOME SPECIALIST - SAFETY IS OUR MIDDLE NAME
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**For a FREE Booklet on our Exciting Product CALL:
800-741-7183**

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK.

CALL 734-467-1900

TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD !

POTENTIAL WORLD RECORD TO BE SET IN GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN!

Vehicles As Low As \$79/mo. and Up*
JUST \$29 DOWN THEN START MAKING PAYMENTS*

GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN - Automobile loan closures, lease termination's, and seized vehicles are extremely common in today's volatile economy. Because these vehicles can be purchased for as much as thousands below market value, they are highly sought after in auction houses and at car dealerships alike. Now, because of current market conditions, there is an unusual abundance of these vehicles and they will be offered direct to the public for a fraction of the original price.

This Tuesday through Friday, January 18, 19, 20, and 21st, 2005 over 200 of these "Exceptional Value" vehicles will be disposed of at the sale location; Crestwood Dodge 32850 Ford Road, Garden City, Michigan regardless of profit. Market conditions have allowed us to acquire a large selection of these vehicles from auctions, banks and vehicle dealers for immediate disposal. Vehicles will be sold direct to the public for up to thousands below normal values! Some payments as low as \$79 per month*, with only \$29.00 Down*. The vehicles and their titles have been inspected and are ready for immediate delivery*.

The U.S. Fleet Liquidators Team will be on hand to ensure that every buyer is waited on in a timely manner. In this sale, most vehicles will be available with only \$29.00 Down*, then just start making payments*. SUV's, Cars, Trucks and Vans, Domestic and Imports alike will be offered and the remainder of the factory warranty will be passed along to the buyer.

Financing will also be available on site. National and Local lenders

will be on hand with millions of auto loan dollars available to assure these vehicles will be sold in Garden City and not transported back to auction. Its never been so easy to save thousands and take immediate delivery* of a quality, pre-owned vehicle.

Lenders specializing in below average credit will also be available and are aggressively seeking new customers. Bankruptcy, divorce and past bad credit are no problem here*. These lenders were selected specifically for their ability to provide credit to customers with past credit problems. To expedite delivery, bring a current drivers license, home phone bill and current paycheck stubs.

Trade-ins will be accepted. Certified appraisers will be on hand to assure top dollar for your trade. Please have your trade title and payment book available.

Smart shoppers, deep discount buyers and bargain seekers alike are all welcome to this once in a lifetime savings event. **No wholesalers, dealers or curbstoners will be permitted.** Vehicles will be disposed of on a first come first serve basis. Although, vehicles will be arriving daily, come early for the best selection. **No overnight camping will be permitted.**

This sale ends Friday, January 21st, at 7 pm. Many of the remaining vehicles will be sent to auction, so don't wait. Starting Wednesday, January, 12th, questions can be directed to 734-421-5700.

This will be held for four days only: This Tuesday through Friday, January 18, 19, 20, and 21st, 2005. Event location:

CRESTWOOD DODGE

32850 FORD ROAD
GARDEN CITY, MICHIGAN

734-421-5700

**EVENT DATES:
4 DAYS ONLY!**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 18
10AM - 7PM**

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 19
10AM - 7PM**

**THURSDAY JANUARY 20
10AM - 9PM**

**FRIDAY JANUARY 21
10AM - 7PM**

*Rights reserved to end sale when every vehicle disposed. Example: 1995 Ford Taurus sale price \$3,100. \$79/mo. for 48 mos. @ 10.5% APR (or lower with approved credit). \$29 down plus tax. Additional down payment may be required for credit approval. Subject to credit approval and prior sale. Subject to lenders final approval. Vehicles provided by Crestwood Dodge.

2005 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW

Jaguar to unleash new models at auto show

John Counts
Staff Writer

Jaguars for soccer moms?
That's the market the maker of the sleek sports cars hopes to attract with the newest design of its popular X-type model.

Jaguar will unveil the Estate Wagon at the 2005 North American

International Auto Show, according to Nick Berinti of Jaguar of Novi.

This is the first station wagon Jaguar has manufactured. Berinti said that Jaguar, known for sporty sedans and luxury coupes, wanted to offer something new in an automotive field dominated by sport utility vehicles (SUV).

"They believe the consumer would prefer to drive a car rather than an SUV," he said. "So they went with a wagon."

At an average \$30,995 price, the X-type is the least expensive Jaguar model, and not surprisingly, one of the most popular. The X-type features advanced occupant protection systems that alter air bag deployment depending on the driver's position and the weight of the passenger—so an airbag would deactivate if it sensed the

lightweight presence of a child. The X-Type also features an anti-lock braking system, all-wheel drive and dynamic stability control that prevents skids by reducing engine power when cornering.

A new, extended version of the Jaguar XJ8 will also be on display at the show, Berinti said.

The XJ8 starts at \$61,495. The new version will be about 6 inches longer, according to Berinti.

"It will have more trunk space and more leg space. It will offer a more luxurious ride, overall," he said.

The XJ8 has a powerful AJ-V8 engine and a six-speed automatic transmission and all the safety features of the X-Type.

Berinti said there will also be newer versions of the carmaker's other models which include the S-Type, which start at \$44,895 and the XK, which starts at \$70,495.

People can also look forward to a surprise at the show, too, Berinti said—something so cloaked in secrecy he couldn't talk about it.

"They will be releasing a vehicle that won't be available for another year," he said. "But I can't talk about it."



The 2005 X-TYPE 3.0 Sportwagon offers drivers the utility and versatility of a wagon without sacrificing the uncompromising luxury or exceptional driving dynamics expected of a Jaguar.



The S-TYPE marries breathtaking power and innovative technology to sensuous styling and contemporary proportions. A new weight-efficient aluminum hood, revised front and rear styling, and a larger selection of trim options are new for 2005.

New Cadillacs are sleeker, faster

Those who wander the Cadillac displays at the North American International Autoshow (NAIS) and the lots at nearby dealers may recognize some of the names, but not necessarily the vehicles they see.

Cadillac is continuing a trend toward sleeker and faster automobiles, according to Ed Pobur, Jr, Sales Manager at Don Massey Cadillac in Plymouth.

The biggest change shoppers and spectators will see will be in the 2006 Cadillac Deville, which will be completely redesigned.

"It's going to start taking on the look of the other models, as far as the slanted nose and tail," Pobur said. "It's supposed to be a spectacular car."

He said he expects the automaker to keep up its marketing theme, which couples the classic carmaker with classic rock – specifically songs popularized by Led Zeppelin.

The Escalade, which is Cadillac's foray in the world of Sport Utility Vehicles (SUVs), will get a reworking, too.

The new Deville will hit car lots and show rooms sometime around the middle of the year, but Pobur said he doesn't expect any of the revamped Escalades for about 12 months.

The new cars are continuing a trend to reach out to a wider marketplace and break down some of the stereotypes of the Cadillac name.

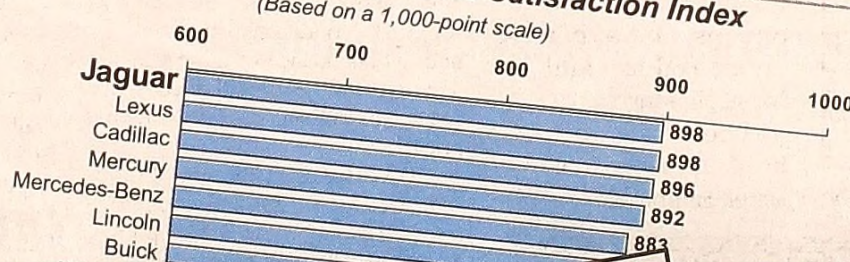
"They tried to reach out to new demographics, while still holding on to their old clientele," Pobur said.

It seems to be working at Don Massey, which has experienced solid sales even during a down economy. Of course, events like the auto show help attract attention during the slow winter times, and the expansive showroom at Don Massey takes care of the rest. Pobur said he could display more than 20 cars indoors in the huge showroom.

"It's easy to show here in the colder months," he said.

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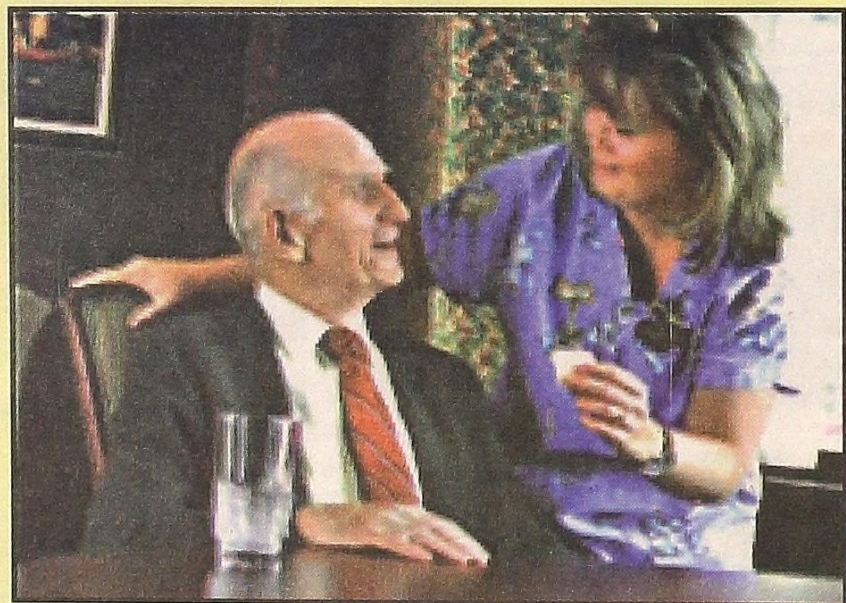
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